

WEST TISBURY PLANNING BOARD MINUTES February 24, 2020

PRESENT: Ginny Jones, Bea Phear, Leah Smith, Amy Upton.

ABSENT: Henry Geller, Matt Merry.

ALSO PRESENT: Lori and Nick Ionntiu, Sam Hart, David Bouck, Jane Rossi.

Ginny opened the meeting at 5:30.

Continuation of a public hearing on an application from the Trustees of Reservations to install utility lines on the property located on Assessor's Map 36, Lot 28, 4 Thumb Point Road, a designated Special Way, under Section 6.2-4 and 9.2 of the zoning bylaws:

Ginny said she had a discussion with Sam Hart about how many local citizens hold fond memories about the old island and the pride they all feel for the town's history. She stated that the Trustees own 632 acres of preserved land and she expressed her appreciation for the conservation group.

Leah stated that this was a continuation of a public hearing. She said that Henry had drafted a letter expressing his concerns regarding digging up of the Special Way and the extensive traffic the beach goers have created on the fragile road.

Leah said there are two parts to the public hearing; where to run the utility line and issues relating to the access to the summer Long Point area. Sam Hart stated that he had been asked by the board to seek confirmation as to why they need the connection to the internet. He said that if solar had been an option they would have taken that route. However, the location would not accommodate for solar so they decided hard wiring was the best option.

David Bouck explained that directional drilling would add another 10 to 12 thousand dollars to the installation cost so they prefer to not take that option. He said that the Trustees continue to work with the Ionntiu's regarding the length of the time span of the project at the possibility of providing them a vehicle in the event that the road will need to be temporarily impassable. Leah asked if Hughes Thumb Road would suffice if the Ionntiu's needed to use it. Lori said it would if they were provided a vehicle. Lori expressed her concerns in the event of a medical emergency. She said the proper authorities need to be informed. David said it is their regular practice to contact the Communications Center.

Henry Geller called into the meeting from New York. He said that the road must be sufficient for the amount of traffic the TTOR's events generate. He said the road between Waldron's Bottom Road and the entrance to the Reservation has become very deep due to traffic. He said he was concerned that more work on the road will cause further lasting results. He added that he was unpersuaded by the input from the IT Director; the internet is not always going to work well and that is simply the case on the island. Henry said it seems the Director is saying that he prefers this option and isn't considering other options. He said he prefers directional drilling. He pointed out that the town has sometimes helped out with the cost.

Bea asked what directional drilling entailed. David explained that a hole is dug and a drill will travel underground for 100 or more feet. This method does not require trenching, which would be more disruptive. Henry said the board would need a map if the drilling were to run through the woods. Bea pointed out that directional drilling would cause no disruption to the neighbors or traffic.

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Amy asked if there was any alternative for electricity and was told there was not. She also asked if the Gate House holds a defibrillator. David said there is one located at the beach Gate House and it can run without electricity. Nick asked if the protected habitat area has been reviewed by the state. David said the property has been reviewed and the protected area basically runs all the way to Long Point. Nick said he used to hike over the dunes until a wide path was cut in. David said the path project was approved by the state. Henry pointed out that the parking lot goes on both sides of the Gate House.

Bea stated that it would be nice to keep the status quo, however, the Trustees do have a right to electricity. She also stated that the organization may have to return to the board regarding parking and then be referred to the Martha's Vineyard Commission under the DRI Check list. Her suggestion is to do directional drilling since installing the lines through the woods would be difficult to repair, and drilling will protect the integrity of the Special Way.

Ginny said that the parking lot had been capped at 90 spaces and has since grown; the board has to look into it. She suggested that the Trustees put together a general business plan that includes a list of events, and return to the board to discuss this separate issue.

Henry said that a line could go through the woods. He said it has been his experience with a cable company that wiring could be re-directed from the point of connection which is a small manhole cover on the Special Way. He said he still recommends that the cable go through the woods.

Nick and Lori said they are happy with the idea of having the Trustees provide them with a vehicle during the installation process. He added that he was hoping something could be done to get the pedestrians and bicyclists off the road.

Bea made a motion to approve directional drilling under the road to the joint of the driveway that leads to the Gate House, to protect the Special Way and for the convenience of the neighbors. Ginny seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Jane was asked to get a map that shows the protected area on the TTOR property.

Amy mentioned that there was some sort of agreement with the town regarding parking. David said that was back in the 90's until the town stopped managing the beach.

Leah asked about the TTOR's plan to manage the cars, bikes and pedestrians. Sam said that the TTOR's are not trying to expand; they just need more high tech service.

Leah suggested that the board go to the new Gate House and take a look at the area.

Jane was asked to email Lori's paperwork to Sam and David.

●Site Plan Review application from the Island Theatre Workshop to conduct a summer camp on the property located on Assessor's Map 32, Lot 63, 12 Music Street:

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Stephanie Burke explained that the organization would like to hold a children's summer program at the old Music Street library. She said that in the past they used the Sailing Camp which is no longer available. The Director, Kate Poole, decided to scale back the program to a maximum of 20 kids. The Island Theatre Workshop has been using the old library for ten years, the first floor for production preparation and the second floor for costume storage. The camp would run from July 6th through August 21st Monday through Friday from 9 to 3 for children between the ages of 8 and 16. The younger children will be dropped off while the older will take the bus. There will be 2 to 3 staff members working during the designated time. The children bring their lunches, and they very much enjoy the program.

Bea made a motion to approve the plan and Leah seconded the motion. All in favor.

- **Referral from the ZBA for Planning Board review to install a full bathroom in a pool house under Section 9.2-1D on the property located on Accessor's Map 38 Lot 3.2, 40 Watcha Club Road.**

Leah made a motion to approve the bathroom with a shower and Bea seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

●Warrant Article Assignments:

Bea agreed to speak on the Housing and Definitions Articles on Town Meeting floor...

Leah agreed to speak on the Open Space Warrant Article on Town Meeting floor.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- E-911 Address Assignment:

Leah moved and Bea seconded the motion to approve a new address assignment for the Buchanan-Valenti's at 73 Trotter's Lane.

MINUTES:

Leah moved and Bea seconded the motion to approve the February 4, 2020 minutes. The vote was unanimous.

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

- Jane was asked to check on the new location of WMVY Radio Station and whether or not they need to apply for a "change of use" permit.

- Bea explained that the CPC has a warrant article for funding for the Complete Streets Committee if, on Town Meeting floor, the town votes to re-designate the layout of Old County Road.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Rossi, Administrator

Unanimously approved on March 9, 2020

