

WEST TISBURY  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
October 9, 2018

**Present:** John Brannen, Prudy Burt, Binnie Ravitch, Peter Rodegast, Michael Turnell, and Tara Whiting

**Absent:** Whit Griswold

**Staff Present:** Maria McFarland

**Also present for all or part of the meeting:** Drew Cathey and Kris Horiuchi

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 P.M. Tara Whiting, Chairman presiding.

The minutes of the September 25 meeting were approved as revised. Binnie and Michael abstained.

There were no public hearings.

**Old Business:**

**Tisbury Great Pond 2017 revised draft report:** The meeting with Sheri Caseau was postponed.

**Mill Pond Dam/additional clearing:** Prudy thought the recent clearing might be sufficient for Kent Healy's purposes. Maria will confirm.

**Watershed Study/ Community Preservation Act (CPA) application:** Members review the approved application of eligibility for some type of project under the CPA open space allocation and two letters from Watershed Committee members regarding their ranking of the study recommendations. Members had an extended discussion about the funding of these recommendations.

It was agreed that, in terms of projects requiring funding, the first priority would be purchasing data loggers or hiring a consultant to collect and analyze dissolved oxygen information because this is where we have the biggest data gap.

The second priority is working with the Barron-Murphy family, Vineyard Conservation Society and West Tisbury Fire Department to work on alternative means of fire suppression instead of continuing to rely on withdrawals from Maley's Pond. Possible alternatives that could be funded would be the cost of purchasing and installation of a tank or a ground water well.

The third priority is determining water rights along Mill Brook and working with riparian owners to remove dams and replacing undersized or failing culverts. It is not clear whether culvert replacements projects would be eligible for CPA funding. This should be verified.

The deadline for filing a full application is October 29. Tara and Prudy will be attending the Selectmen's meeting tomorrow.

**Water Withdrawal Bylaw:** Members reviewed and revised the October 9 draft. A motion was made and seconded to have Tara and Prudy present the draft bylaw to the Board of Selectmen on October 10 with a request for access to counsel to have the draft reviewed and questions answered. All in favor.

Maria reported that she has been unable to follow up with the Marion Town Clerk/Conservation Commission staff person to get more information on why the warrant article for a bylaw in Marion failed. She has also contacted the Town of Rochester which passed a similar bylaw in 2016 and the Town of Mattapoisett where the Water and Sewer Commission has a bylaw under discussion.

**Administrative:**

**Map 32 Lots 89 & 88/ SE 79 353/ Barron-Murphy/ Certificate of Compliance:** The remaining Russian Olives were removed and the view shed clearing has been done. A motion was made and seconded to sign the Certificate of Compliance. All in favor.

**Map 39 Lot 13/ SE79-356/Pil/ Certificate of Compliance:** Drew and Kris were present. Kris reviewed the landscape plan. Maria noted that the as-built plan was not ready yet because the request for this certificate came into the office late last week. Drew said Vineyard Land Surveying pinned the corners of all structures on the property in the field before construction to ensure that and are within the limit of work. Kris said all restoration areas were seeded but have not fully grown in. There are no ongoing maintenance conditions. The owner will have to file new paperwork for any maintenance work within the Buffer Zone. A motion was made and seconded to sign the Certificate of Compliance. All in favor.

**Correspondence:**

In: Copies of letters addressed to the Board of Selectmen from Rez Williams and Selena Roman regarding ranking of watershed recommendations.

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting adjourned at 6:15PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria McFarland  
Board Administrator  
APPROVED 10/23/2018