

Present: Riggs Parker, Frank Fenner, Warren Doty, Tim Carroll, Jonathan Revere, Mark London, Jim Athearn, Brett Stearns, Planning Board members Rich Osnoss & John Flender, Harbor Master Dennis Jason, Mr. & Mrs. Greg Whitmore.

Meeting called to order at 7:30 PM in the Selectmen's Meeting Room by Chairman Parker.

Martha's Vineyard Commission

Jim Athearn, Brett Stearns and Mark London gave a presentation on the status of the Island Plan project. The Selectmen discussed aspects of the project with the delegation.

Chilmark Community Center

Mr. Doty moved and Mr. Parker seconded a motion to authorize Mr. Fenner to act on his own discretion to purchase the replacement windows for the community center within the estimates presented. SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

Harbor Administrative Assistant

The board discussed the two finalists and agreed they were both outstanding. Mr. Doty said he was most comfortable with Virginia Jones. Mr. Fenner said he hoped the town could find room for both of the finalists in the near future. He said that Virginia Jones brought years of experience and good skills to the job. Mr. Parker said he agreed.

Mr. Doty moved and Mr. Fenner seconded a motion to appoint Virginia Jones as the part-time administrative assistant to the Harbor Department. SO VOTED: UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Jason thanked the board for their review and good decision.

Harbor - Electrical

Mr. Jason told the Selectmen he had a new quote for repairing the power center next to the harbor shack. Mr. Fenner asked when it would be completed and Mr. Jason said that it would be completed before May. Mr. Fenner moved and Mr. Doty seconded a motion to approve Cole Powers to do the repairs at his \$4,580 quote. SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

The board discussed potential costs for the repowering of the West (Filled) Dock. The need for a transformer was discussed and Mr. Carroll urged a pole mounted unit in place of a large concrete elevated pad unit.

Harbor - Tribe RIB

Mr. Brett Stearns reported to the Selectmen that the Tribal Council approved the general concept of the sharing of the rigid hull inflatable boat (RIB) this summer with the Harbor Department. He said he was working on a written agreement with the Harbor Master to address use and maintenance. The board thanked him for his report and the tribe's generous offer.

Lucy Vincent Beach - Fossils

Mr. Greg Whitmore presented his plan to collect fossils from the cliff on Lucy Vincent Beach for his doctoral thesis. He said specimens were being lost to the sea daily. He told the Selectmen it was one of only two sites in New England that had this material and that the last studies had occurred from 1700 - 1800's. He addressed the concerns of the Tribe regarding human remains and reviewed his sampling techniques.

Mr. Doty asked if Mr. Whitmore was currently enrolled in a PhD program at UNH. Mr. Whitmore said he was not and that he had to present this to the university to be accepted. Mr. Doty said

that this project has not been endorsed by the university yet.

Mr. Fenner said that the idea to preserve the fossils was good, but that he was very concerned by the attention this project has received. He said the last thing the town needed was to have more people digging in the cliff. Mr. Fenner suggested that since Mr. Whitmore knew of extensive surface collections from this site, that perhaps he could use those collections of fossils for his research. Mr. Whitmore said that the location the fossil is found in gives it a date, and that without recording where it was found, it would be difficult to date an object. Mr. Fenner suggested carbon dating. Mr. Whitmore said that works in the 10,000 to 15,000 year range, but that these fossils are 30 million to 5 million years old. He also said it would be too expensive for his thesis.

Mr. Parker said that the Selectmen are the stewards of this land and not the owners. He asked how the Selectmen should distinguish between Mr. Whitmore and the next young man who wants to conduct research there? Mr. Whitmore said that once done, it was not a project that needed to be updated.

Mr. Doty and Mr. Fenner said they were not interested in changing their prior vote to not allow the project. Mr. Whitmore said that every day more of this treasure you are trying to protect from my research is slipping away into the ocean and private collections. He said it would be a loss to the historical record. Mr. Parker thanked Mr. Whitmore for his presentation and coming before the Selectmen.

ZBA - Wheeler

Mr. Fenner asked if the other abutters had all signed. Mr. Carroll could not recall what Mr. Hodgkinson had said. Mr. Fenner moved and Mr. Doty seconded a motion to authorize the chairman to sign the abutter authorization letter if the other abutters have already done so. SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

Landfill

Mr. Carroll reported on his plan to reseed an area of the landfill cap using the capital fund if required to do so by the DEP inspection this month.

UpIsland Regional School District Agreement

Mr. Carroll asked whether the amendment worked if there were no students from the other two towns. Mr. Parker explained that the amendment limited the host town to 80% and required the balance to be split between the other two. Therefore the 20% would be split 10 and 10 between them.

Administrative Assistant - Housing/Planning

Mr. Parker asked to establish the interview and selection committee for the Admin Asst position being advertised now. He asked for the following members: Chairman of the Housing Committee, Chairman of the Planning Board, and the Executive Secretary or his designee, with an observer from the Personnel Board. Mr. Fenner and Mr. Doty concurred.

Pandemic Management Plan

Mr. Parker reported on attending a meeting of other chairmen of the island boards of selectmen this afternoon. They talked about assembling a group of island selectmen to address food and infra structure issues during a pandemic event.

The group sent its members back to their boards of Selectmen to ask them to authorize one Selectman to serve on a Policy Coordinating Committee. If they are called upon, they would function as a policy body not an operational committee. The representatives would have the power to commit town resources and funding.

Mr. Carroll suggested that Mr. Parker call a meeting of the Chilmark Emergency Planning Committee and review this new concept with them to seek their input on this new regional effort. Mr.

Parker said he wanted to get this appointment made first and then he would speak with the committee.

Mr. Doty moved and Mr. Fenner seconded a motion to appoint Mr. Parker as the representative of the Chilmark Selectmen. SO VOTED: Two Ayes, One Abstention.

Mr. Doty agreed with Mr. Carroll's suggestion and said that the committee needed to be informed and be asked for their input. Mr. Fenner agreed and said that the structure Mr. Parker was describing may already be in place. Mr. Parker agreed to work with the Emergency Planning Committee. He reported that the committee was meeting again on March 19th at the MV Hospital.

Joint Meeting Scheduled with Housing Committee

March 13th 2007 at 7:00 PM to discuss and review the budget and then 7:30 PM with the Housing Committee.

Regional School Formula

The board looked at a fax from the School Superintendent relating to the statutory school formula.

Middle Line Road Committee

Mr. Doty said they would meet at 9:30 AM on March 14th.

Annual Town Meeting - Warrant

Mr. Carroll asked the Selectmen if there were any other articles they wanted on the warrant. The board said no.

Bulkhead Lot Leases

The Selectmen signed the leases. Mr. Fenner had questions as to whether the business lease rate was supposed to increase this year. It was agreed to hold the leases until Mr. Carroll researched this issue.

Creek Lot Leases

The Selectmen signed the leases that had been returned. Mr. Fenner questioned the lease of Mr. Chris Murphy and Mr. Carroll was told to research that lease.

Standard & Poors

Mr. Carroll reported that the bond rating agency would be conducting a review of the town in the next few weeks.

Cape Cod Municipal Health Group

Mr. Carroll reported on the wellness meeting and the estimated annual rates.

Common Victualers

Mr. Carroll asked the Selectmen if they wanted to communicate any message when the permits were returned. Mr. Fenner said to address recycling with the board of health and keeping their areas clean with a trash can.

Motion To Adjourn 10:05pm

APPROVED: March 20th 2007