

*Approved 10/19/22*  
**Town of West Tisbury**  
**Select Board Meeting**  
**Jointly with the Select Boards of Chilmark and Aquinnah**  
**Wednesday October 5, 2022 5:00 pm**  
**In person at the Howes House**

**Present:** Select Persons Skipper Manter, Jessica Miller, Cynthia Mitchell and Town Administrator Jen Rand

**Also present for part or all of the meeting:**

**Chilmark Select Board Members:** Jim Malkin, Bill Rossi, Warren Gossen,

**Aquinnah Town Administrator:** Jeff Madison

**Howes House Committee:** Bernadette Lyons, Bethany Hammond, Kathy Logue, Jim Klingensmith

**Others:** Susan Murphy, Jennie Gadowski, Cathy Minkiewicz, T. Humphrey, Eunki Seonwoo

Cindy called the Select Board meeting to order at 5:00 pm

Bill Rossi called the Chilmark Select Board to order.

**Minutes:** Vote to Approve: September 28, 2022

There were no edits or corrections offered.

*Skipper moved to approve the Minutes of September 28, 2022. Jessica seconded. Roll Call vote: All in favor.*

**New Business:**

- **Howes House Renovation Cost Sharing:**

Skipper gave a short intro to the group and then passed on to Bethany who spoke about the Council on Aging and what they do. She also talked about the challenges with the current space. Kathy spoke about the financials and how they are hoping to do a similar funding formula as the Tri-Town Ambulance building project between the 3 towns. She said that West Tisbury would pay for expenses during the design phase up through getting the construction bid, but they want input from the other towns and to have members appointed from Chilmark and Aquinnah onto the Howes House Building Committee sooner rather than later. They are proposing construction costs are split 1/3<sup>rd</sup> each town and then operations costs would be based on usage from each town. Kathy gave a very rough number for the entire project as around \$8 million. Jen explained that because the building is in the center of the Historic District they have a say in what happens and they are opposed to them changing the road frontage of the building and they are limited with the changes to the footprint due to utilities nearby. Because they cannot tear down and start over, the price is a bit higher.

They spoke about the focus groups that they have begun having and some of the issues and questions that have come up so far. They mentioned that info from Healthy Aging MV has been very helpful. There was also discussion about transportation and outreach.

Warren had concerns about the usage of the COA by the other towns and wondered if 1/3 was fair but Bethany had usage numbers that showed nearly half of the elderly population in Chilmark and a quarter in Aquinnah used their service, which was a surprise to many. Jeff spoke about Aquinnah having a couple of their own capital projects coming up and that another regional project is difficult for them to take on due to their tax disparity.

Ultimately, everyone thought the Tri-Town template was a good start. They emphasized outreach being important to be able to get voters on board. Susan Murphy volunteered to be the Chilmark rep to the HH committee (she is a Chilmark Finance Committee member) and Jeff will speak with Susan Collins in Aquinnah as she is on their Council on Aging. Both of the other towns requested an informational document to present to their voters.

Chilmark adjourned their meeting and left at this point along with Jeff Madison.

- **Appointment of Keeper of the Dam – David Bouck:**

He has agreed to serve. There was no discussion.

*Skipper moved to appoint David Bouck as Keeper of the Dam. Jessica seconded. Roll Call vote: All in favor.*

**Topics Not Anticipated:** There were none, but Jen reminded everyone that they were not meeting next week.

**Old Business:** There was none.

**Correspondence:** There was none

**Public Comment:** There were a couple of clarification questions from the press.

*With no further business to attend to Skipper moved to adjourn the meeting. Jessica seconded. Roll Call vote: All in favor.*

*Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:03 pm*

*Respectfully Submitted by Janice Haynes, Administrative Assistant*