

Approved 7/30/08
TOWN OF WEST TISBURY
SELECTMENS MEETING
Wednesday, June 4, 2008, 4:30 p.m.

Present: Selectmen Skipper Manter, Dianne Powers, Richard Knabel, Jen Rand

Guests: R. Karney, Tom Osmer, Ray Gale, Will Whiting, John Christensen, E. Mendenhall, C. Riggs, B & B Day, B. Potts, J. Shea, J. Ames

THRC – OPM: Bea Phear said the THRC had conducted 4 interviews for an Owners Project Manager out of 10 responses and had unanimously chosen Michael Josefek. She asked the Board to endorse their decision. If negotiated Mr. Josefek will be both the OPM and the Clerk of the Works.

R. Knabel motioned to authorize the THRC to conduct negotiations to hire Mr. Josefek. D. Powers seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

Aquaculture Public Hearing: Rick Karney said the proposed site had moved since the first meeting a little to the NE to accommodate commercial fluke fishing. He said they had solicited input from fishermen, tackle shops and other users to determine a site with the lowest impact. Rick reminded the Board that the Town was the applicant for this permit from the State and Feds. and then the Board would issue local permits. He recommended limiting the permit to shellfish farming only. The permits to the local fishermen would probably be for three years but the zone would exist in perpetuity. The zone could probably handle between 5-7 fishermen. Rick said he had spoken to UNH about whale entanglements and they have a system in place that eliminates the concern. Will Whiting suggested a review Board consisting of disinterested parties to review and grant zone permits and develop protocols for operation.

R. Knabel motioned to close the public hearing. D. Powers seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

R. Knabel motioned to go forward with the permitting for shellfish aquaculture permitting. D. Powers seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

Minutes: *D. Powers motioned to approve the minutes of 3/26/08 & 3/29/08. S. Manter seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was DP & SM in favor, RK abstained.*

D. Powers motioned to approve the minutes of 5/14/08 with amendments. R. Knabel seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

Emergency Management Director: John Christensen said he was interested in the position, and has a background in regulatory compliance with Exxon Mobil and now teaches at Mass Maritime. He has been a member of the WTFD since 1992, has read the Emergency Management Plan and seen areas where it needs to be updated. Skipper asked if there had been any other applicants. Jen said yes, one but they lived in Chilmark. Skipper expressed a general desire to fill WT positions with residents if possible.

R. Knabel motioned to appoint John Christensen to the position of Emergency Management Director for a term of one year. D. Powers seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

Event at the Grange: *D. Powers motioned to authorize the "Speak Truth to Power" event at the Grange on July 26, 2008. R. Knabel seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

Conservation Restriction – Hickey: *D. Powers motioned to endorse the Hickey CR. R. Knabel seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

Conflict of Interest: *D. Powers motioned to waive Conflict of Interest with Rackeman, Sanyer & Brewster. R. Knabel seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

Waiver of Right of First Refusal: Jen explained that Counsel had reviewed the RoFR on the Mathieson 61A and determined that Town actually didn't have any rights in this case.

D. Powers motioned to sign the RoFR. R. Knabel seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

Appointments: *D. Powers motioned to appoint Anne Fisher and Leslie Grey to the Local Historic Commission for terms of three years. R. Knabel seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

Committee Guidelines: Dianne said she was struggling with the guidelines because she couldn't understand how WT got to the point that they had to have guidelines to appoint a group of volunteers. She asked who determined that a committee was "active". Richard said the BOS does. Dianne disagreed on the basis that committees are generally created either by the voters or by a group of eager volunteers and they should determine if they should disband. The Board went through the items and made some suggested changes. Regarding active committees and defined purposes, the word active was suggested for removal. Regarding "reporting to Selectmen" Dianne said she didn't like the word "report" she said that every Board and Committee produces a report to the voters annually, and they are welcome to visit with the Board at any time. Richard said he wanted them to come to a meeting of the BOS at least once a year. Skipper asked if perhaps the BOS could go to one of the Committee meetings. Dianne preferred that approach.

Regarding the status of temporary committees the discussion about the definition of temporary committees and sunset dates. Committees that have a set purpose (ie. Bldg. Committee) would sunset at the end of the project. Regarding the solicitation of members for specialized committees Skipper did not think the BOS should solicit people for appointment, it would then appear that all candidates would not be treated equally. Richard said the BOS was expected to take control of these situations and that voters know that the Board will do things they may not like.

Regarding terms of appointment, it was discussed that any appointments without other designation would be annual appointments.

Ernie noted that the Board should solicit opinions from the town boards and committees; he said they would know best the issues they have.

Non-Vehicular Committee: Richard had proposed a new committee looking at all potential path options in town. He said the Paths Committee should not be allowed to do anything else until this committee does a comprehensive study of options in town. Dianne said she did not want to see the Paths Committee disbanded without a request from them. The Paths Committee will be asked to come in and talk about what they would like to do about their committee. Regarding the specific points in the memo drafted by Richard, Dianne noted that there are bike paths all over the island located next to busy roads that have no buffers and work fine. She said she obviously thought the town should be concerned with safety, but wasn't sure large buffer were always necessary. Skipper said he wanted to committee to also look at connections to public transit.

Jen will draft up the comments for both committee issues for review. The guidelines will be circulated to town boards and committees for input.

Resignations: *D. Powers motioned to accept with regrets resignations of Kate Warner from the THRC and Nancy Alyce Abbot from the Personnel Board. R. Knabel seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*