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Minutes of the Commission Meeting Held on January 6, 2005 in the Stone Building 33 New York Avenue, Oak Bluffs, MA

IN ATTENDANCE

Commissioners: James Athearn (Elected – Edgartown), John Best (Elected – Tisbury), John Breckenridge (Appointed – Oak Bluffs), Christina Brown (Elected – Edgartown), Mimi Davisson (Elected – Oak Bluffs), Linda DeWitt (Appointed - Edgartown), Katherine Newman (Appointed – Aquinnah), Ned Orleans (Appointed - Tisbury), Deborah Pigeon (Elected– Oak Bluffs), Robert Schwartz (Appointed – West Tisbury), Doug Sederholm (Elected – Chilmark), Linda Sibley (Elected - West Tisbury)

Staff: Mark London (Executive Director), Bill Veno (Senior Planner), Christine Flynn (Economic Planner)

Linda Sibley introduced two new Commissioners: Mimi Davisson and Deborah Pigeon both from Oak Bluffs. She reported that Jane Greene and Bob Schwartz have told their selectmen they would like to be replaced. Both will continue to serve until the selectmen find replacements or until the beginning of April.

1. COPELAND PLAN DISTRICT – PUBLIC HEARING ON AMENDMENT

Commissioners Present: J. Athearn, J. Best, J. Breckenridge, C. Brown, M. Davisson, L. DeWitt, K. Newman, N. Orleans, S. Pigeon, R. Schwartz, D. Sederholm, L. Sibley

For the Proponents: John Bradford (Oak Bluffs Planning Board)

Linda Sibley opened the public hearing on an amendment to the Copeland Plan District of Critical Planning Concern.

John Breckenridge disclosed that his wife is a member of the Cottage City Historic Commission and neither he nor his wife have any financial involvement.

John Bradford said that the proponents want to amend section 9-1.4.14 of the Copeland Plan so the representative from the Architecture Committee, which no longer exists, would be replaced with a representative of the Cottage City Historic Commission. This is the only change and John Bradford assured Christina Brown that one or more residents of the Copeland District would continue to be on the committee.

John Best moved and it was duly seconded that the proposed regulations conform to the guidelines for development specified in the Commission's

designation of the District. A roll call vote was taken. In favor: J. Athearn, J. Best, J. Breckenridge, C. Brown, M. Davisson, L. DeWitt, K. Newman, N. Orleans, S. Pigeon, D. Sederholm, R. Schwartz, L. Sibley. Opposed: None. Abstentions: None. The motion passed.

2. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

Linda Sibley reported that she has appointed Christina Brown as chair of the Land Use Planning Committee for 2005.

3. SURVEY RESULTS

Mark London and **Bill Veno** reported on the results of the surveys given during the summer of 2003 to passengers leaving the island on the Steamship Authority and on private ferries.

- The intent of the survey was to gain information about visitors to the Island since the last survey in 1996.
- The work was funded by MassHighway and was conducted by the U. Mass. Center for Economic Development, which entered and coded the data.
- Dan Greenbaum, a seasonal resident and transportation engineer, helped to arrange for Vollmer Associates to analyze the data.
- 1740 surveys were conducted, representing 6000 passengers.
- 11% of respondents were permanent residents, 19% were seasonal (spending 4 weeks or more or owning a house), and 70% were visitors.
- To date, data has been analyzed to show the length of stay, the average ages of travelers, the average income, and accommodations of visitors and seasonal residents.
- The next steps are to finish analyzing the other responses by category and compare findings with previous surveys.
- They are aiming to complete the summary of ferry results in a week or two.
- The Commission has also received results of the analysis of the survey conducted last summer. The summary of the results of this survey should be ready within a month.

4. PLANNING PROCESS

Mark London said that the Commissioners had agreed that he and Commissioners would visit town boards in January for what could be the first of annual meetings with Selectmen to inform them of Commission activities. This visit will also include an outline of the proposed Island-wide planning process. Members of Planning Boards and Conservation Commissions will be invited to attend. Tentative meeting dates are:

- West Tisbury Selectmen on January 12th;
- Edgartown Selectmen and Finance Committee on January 20th at 4:00 p.m.;
- Chilmark Selectmen on February 1st at 7:30 p.m.

Mark London asked for a small group of Commissioners who could brainstorm about fundraising. Two groups were identified.

- private donations: Ned Orleans, possibly Megan Ottens-Sargent (Linda Sibley will enquire);
- grants: Katherine Newman, James Athearn, and Doug Sederholm.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

5.1 Drawbridge

Mark London reported that the Lagoon Pond Committee has received 75% completed plans for the temporary drawbridge.

- An open house to view the plans will be held January 19th at the Katherine Cornell Theater.
- Through the two steps of the temporary then permanent bridge, the channel will be slightly widened, straightened, and shifted toward Vineyard Haven.
- A subcommittee political and financial commitment committee is working on establishing a federal funding earmark to ensure that the permanent bridge is built within the promised time limits. They are also working on facilitating coordination of the many agencies involved.

5.2 Windfarm

Linda Sibley noted that the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative is holding an informational meeting about the Windfarm Environmental Impact Statement on Saturday, January 8th at Cape Cod Community College from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Bill Veno will attend.

Mark London asked if a few Commissioners could brainstorm a response to the Windfarm proposal for discussion by the full Commission.

- **John Best** said he felt people on the committee should not be of one position or another and the response should be a reasonable summation of each side.
- **Ned Orleans** suggested that staff provide a summation of each side of the issue.
- **James Athearn** suggested that they consider the proposal as a DRI and wondered whether staff could list the benefits and detriments.
- **Mark London** said positions tend to be polarized the Commission's position would not necessarily to simply take one or another position.
- **Kathy Newman** suggested that the Commissions' position paper could lead to some opinion that wasn't so polarized.
- **Linda DeWitt** said she has been told by sailors that the area has noticeable dead calm in July and August and wondered whether the developer had considered this.
- The subcommittee of Linda DeWitt, Linda Sibley, and Christina Brown will meet and brainstorm before the February deadline.

5.2 DRI Regulations Process and Procedures

Mark London said that the DRI Regulations Process and Procedures Committee met diligently for many months and drafted revisions, which were sent to counsel for review. Counsel has now drafted a response that will be finalized towards the end of January. The Committee should meet a few weeks after they have been received.

5.3 Pennywise Path

Christina Brown reported that an Edgartown Special Town Meeting would be held on January 13th to vote on financing the road and utilities for the Pennywise Project. The sewer will be routed underneath the golf course.

6. MINUTES

Commissioners Present: J. Athearn, J. Best, J. Breckenridge, C. Brown, M. Davisson, L. DeWitt, K. Newman, N. Orleans, S. Pigeon, R. Schwartz, D. Sederholm, L. Sibley

6.1 Minutes of July 15th

John Best moved and it was duly seconded that the minutes of July 15, 2004, be approved with the following corrections:

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| Throughout | - Remove Robert Schwartz |
| Page 1, line 23 | - should read "Nomination Papers for Election of Commissioners" |
| Page 3, line 11/12 | - should read "Alan Schweikert" |
| Page 3, line 29 | - Add Christina Brown to Commissioners Present |

A voice vote was taken. In favor: 8. Opposed: 0. Abstentions: 4. The motion passed.

6.2 Minutes of September 9th

Christina Brown moved and it was duly seconded that the minutes of September 9, 2004, be approved with the following corrections:

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| Page 5, line 3 | - Add "Doug Sederholm disagreed with the opinion". |
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A voice vote was taken. In favor: 10. Opposed: 0. Abstentions: 2. The motion passed.

6.3 Minutes of September 30th

Christina Brown moved and it was duly seconded that the minutes of September 30th be approved with the following corrections:

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|------------|---|
| Throughout | - Change meeting date to September 30 th |
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A voice vote was taken. In favor: 8. Opposed: 0. Abstentions: 4. The motion passed.

6.4 Minutes of October 7th

Christina Brown moved and it was duly seconded that the minutes of October 7th be approved with the following corrections:

- Page 8 - Prior to Section 2, Announcements, add "The public hearing was continued until the November meeting."
- Page 8, line 37 - should read "Selection Criteria and urged Commission Representatives to attend."

A voice vote was taken. In favor: 9. Opposed: 0. Abstentions: 3. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Linda B. Libley
Chairman

March 17, 2005
Date

WJ Means
Clerk-Treasurer

March 17, 2005
Date