Minutes of the Commission Meeting
Held on April 11, 2013
In the Stone Building
33 New York Avenue, Oak Bluffs, MA

IN ATTENDANCE

Commissioners: (P= Present; A= Appointed; E= Elected)
P  Tripp Barnes (E-Tisbury)       P  James Joyce (A-Edgartown)
P  John Breckenridge (E-Oak Bluffs) - W. Karl McLaurin (A-Governor)
P  Christina Brown (E-Edgartown)   -  Jim Miller (A-Aquinnah)
-  Tim Carroll (A-Chilmark)        -  Ned Orleans (A-Tisbury)
-  Madeline Fisher (E-Edgartown)  -  Camille Rose (E-Aquinnah)
P  Josh Goldstein (E-Tisbury)     -  Doug Sederholm (E-Chilmark)
P  Erik Hammarlund (E-West Tisbury) - Linda Sibley (E-West Tisbury)
P  Fred Hancock (A-Oak Bluffs)    -  Brian Smith (A-West Tisbury)
P  Leonard Jason (A-Edgartown)

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

Chairman Fred Hancock called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

1. MINUTES


Corrections to minutes:
  •  line 83 – add a period at the end of the Shore Zone and delete the repeated language,
  •  line 99 – revise the language to read “bylaw addresses structures which are…”,
  •  line 154 – correct typo from “no” to “not”,
  •  line 180 – replace “Leonard Jason” with “Christina Brown”,
  •  line 185 – add “ Erik Hammarlund withdrew his motion”
  •  line 186 – delete, and
  •  line 499 – correct typo from “Brain” to “Brian”.

Erik Hammarlund moved and it was duly seconded to approve the minutes of April 4, 2013 with the corrections as noted; In favor: 9. Opposed: 0. Abstentions: 0. The motion passed.

2. VERIZON WIRELESS/CELL TOWER WEST TISBURY (DRI-640) WRITTEN DECISION

For the Applicant: Carl Gehring

Erik Hammarlund noted a correction to line 108; there should be a period at the end of alternatives and strike language “more than the three required by the West Tisbury Zoning”.

There was a discussion about striking the language on line 163 “as it extends 15 feet above the surrounding tree canopy”.

- Erik Hammarlund proposed that it be removed.
- Christina Brown suggested that the language should state that “the top of the tower extends a short distance above the surrounding tree canopy”.
- Leonard Jason asked if the MVC should state a real height since the Commission took the position that Verizon cannot do anything that does not meet zoning.
- Mark London noted that the decision has already been made and the Commission is just checking the wording to be sure the written decision is faithful to the oral decision.
- Fred Hancock confirmed that the Commissioners were okay with the corrected language as proposed by Christina.

Erik Hammarlund noted that his name is incorrectly spelled on line 223.

There was a discussion about adding the following language on line 243 at the end of the sentence “as permitted by West Tisbury Zoning”.

- Erik Hammarlund suggested that the change be made
- Christina Brown questioned adding this language.
- Erik Hammarlund felt it should be added to be consistent with Section 5.
- Leonard Jason noted that Verizon’s engineer had verified and stamped the survey regarding the height if the tree canopy.


6. NEW BUSINESS


6.1 Executive Directors Report

Mark London presented the following.

Joint Transportation Committee

- There was a JTC meeting on April 11, 2013.
- A draft list of Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) projects for upcoming years will be prepared for discussion at the May meeting. The TIP is the mechanism for returning federal gas tax money to fund local projects.
- There was a discussion about including the reconfiguration of the intersection of Old County Road and State Road in West Tisbury in the local share of the TIP.
• The funding for the roundabout was originally to include the 2014 TIP, but MassDOT has indicated that the funding will be completed in 2013, freeing up 2014 funds for other projects.
• The JTC agreed to apply for project approval for resurfacing the Edgartown - Vineyard Haven Road, possibly including bike and bus improvements, though the timing remains to be discussed.
• The Tisbury Connector Road did not pass at Town Meeting since it did not achieve a two-thirds majority. The JTC asked MassDOT whether it might be funded through the TIP.

Leonard Jason asked if East Chop Drive has been discussed. Mark London said he recalls that it is not eligible for TIP money. TIP road money is only for “federal-aid” roads, namely those designated as arterial and connector roads. They do not fund improvements to local roads.

James Joyce said it is interesting that federal gas money is allowed to be used for a shared use path that is not used by vehicles. Mark London noted that it is long-established practice that the money be used not only for roads but also for other types of transportation. Christina Brown noted that by accommodating trips with alternate modes such as transit and bikes, it frees up space on the roads and saves the cost of enlarging roads.

DRI Checklist

Mark London noted that the Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs has approved the new DRI Checklist. As has been discussed with Fred Hancock and Gareth Orsmond, the implementation date will be May 1, 2013. A package with all of the details will be sent out this week.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO DURING THE MEETING

• Minutes of the Commission Meeting – Draft 2, Held on April 4, 2013
• Decision of the Martha’s Vineyard Commission – Draft –A, DRI 640- Verizon Wireless Cell Tower

Chairman

Date 6-20-13

Clerk-Treasurer

Date 6-20-13