Minutes of the Island Road DCPC Committee Meeting
Held on October 5, 2011
Fred B. Morgan, Jr. Meeting Room in Edgartown Town Hall
Main Street, Edgartown, MA 02539

IN ATTENDANCE

Commissioners: (P= Present; A= Appointed; E= Elected)
P  Christina Brown (E-Edgartown)  P  Doug Sederholm (E-Chilmark) (unable to stay until the very end)
P  Erik Hammarlund (E-West Tisbury)  P  Fred Hancock (A-Oak Bluffs)

Staff:  Jo-Ann Taylor (Coastal Planner, DCPC Coordinator), Bill Veno (Senior Planner)

Others:  Ben Hall, Jr.

Fred Hancock called the meeting to order at 8:20 a.m.

Fred Hancock directed the discussion to possible rewrite of the original 1975 Section 4.12 Compliance with Criteria and Standards, such as in the staff draft rewrite of Section 4.12 for discussion purposes.

- The main purpose of amendment would be to clarify that Special Ways should be protected regardless of whether or not public access has been documented. Section 4.12 documents how the District meets the criteria for a Cultural or Historic Resource District according to the Critical Planning District Qualifications.
  - Discussion continued on ways that might not have documented access but should still be protected.
  - Questions arose:
    - What needs protection, the point A to point B travel, or the scenic character, or both? Travel was always the use.
    - What is the desired state to protect? The cart path from colonial times? The narrow footpath remaining? If not maintained or used, they will all become overgrown with time. Are the public or private owners responsible for maintenance? What about those ways with unknown rights and responsibilities?
    - There was discussion of the need to protect from inappropriate development, rather than from keeping a particular condition. In line 23, the draft text on maintaining the condition was replaced with they must not be altered in a manner that prevents visitors and residents from seeing what Island life was once like. Clear-cutting, for example would be inappropriate. There remains the discussion of what activities ARE appropriate.

- Protection of archeological resources was discussed.
- There was general agreement that the original Section 4.12 should be expanded, with the amendment draft offering better explanation overall.
- There was general agreement that the draft Section 4.12 included much text that might be better in the Uses section, and to move the text after line 57 to the Uses section.
- There was some discussion of looking at what ways are out there in need of protection, for possible MVC or town nomination. When Edgartown nominated already-driven ways
such as the street portion of Pennywise Path, the envelope for definition was pushed. Does the Commission want to expand the breadth of what is a Special Way?

Fred Hancock directed the Committee, for homework, to continue focusing on Section 4.12. Erik Hammarlund moved to approve the minutes of September 28, as amended at the table. Christina Brown seconded. The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Jo-Ann Taylor

Next meeting: Thursday, October 13, 8:15 a.m.

DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO DURING THE MEETING

- Island Road DCPC Committee Draft Amendments For Discussion Purposes Working Draft 9 30 11
- 2008 Amendments (negated in the “Judgment”, continued defense by MVC)
- 1975 Decision of the MVC Designating the Island Road District as a DCPC
- Critical Planning District Qualifications
- Chapter 831 of the Acts of 1977 as amended
- Minutes of September 28, 2011 (amended and finalized during the meeting)