

LAGOON POND DRAWBRIDGE COMMITTEE

c/o MARTHA'S VINEYARD COMMISSION

P.O. BOX 1447, OAK BLUFFS, MA 02557
508-693-3453 WWW.MVCOMMISSION.ORG

Minutes of the Meeting held on February 22, 2012

Meeting Location: MVC Offices

Members Present: Melinda Loberg (Chairman), Tristan Israel, Chris Fried, Mark London, and Dan Greenbaum

Observers: Tony Omer (MV Times), Bill Veno (MVC Staff), and Mike Mauro (MVC Staff).

The meeting was called to order at 9:40 a.m.

1. Minutes of February 1, 2012 Drawbridge Meeting

Ms. Loberg noted that Jay Wilbur (VH Harbormaster) is a Committee member and not an observer. The minutes of the February 1, 2012 Drawbridge meeting were unanimously approved, as corrected.

2. Report on Recent Meetings

All Island Board of Selectmen: February 9, 2012

Ms. Loberg reported that the presentation at the All-Island Board of Selectmen was a success. The Selectmen were happy to have been provided the information, showing mild interest.

Martha's Vineyard Commission: February 16, 2012

Ms. Loberg reported that the presentation at the Martha's Vineyard Commission went very well. The Commissioners were very thankful and appreciative. They also commended Ms. Loberg on her presentation for it doesn't happen often where the Chairperson from a Committee comes in to provide an informational status update on a project.

3. Letter to MassDOT on Committee Comments

Mr. London referred to the minutes of the last meeting. It was agreed that he will draft a comment letter stating the points that had been discussed and will send it to Steve McLaughlin at MassDOT.

Abutments

- MassDOT is waiting to hear from the Drawbridge Committee to tell them what its preference is.
- After looking at the abutments at the Big and Little Bridges, members were left unenthused because they look artificial. They were never stained as promised, so they don't provide a good example for a treatment that might be used at the drawbridge.
- Concerns regarding the scale were discussed. If everything is more streamlined, it may make the bridge look bottom heavy, which members wanted to avoid.

- Can MassDOT provide a photographic mock-up showing the proposed pattern and color? On a larger wall, mixed stone sizes blend easier, where smaller spots like the Big and Little Bridges blend unevenly. The stone bank building in Vineyard Haven or the stone church in Oak Bluffs can be used as examples.

Railings

- The Committee unanimously agreed on the color of the railings to be a greenish/gray, similar to that at the Woods Hole drawbridge.
- The Committee unanimously agreed on the guardrails. An additional note requesting that the guardrails be steel-backed wood should be included.

Sidewalks and Walkways

- The bike path clearly delineates where bicyclists should go.
- The Committee would like to request that the sidewalks be tinted to match what the Town of Tisbury uses for its sidewalks.
- The Committee unanimously agreed that chipseal for the pedestrian walkway can be used. Local materials and local labor should be used wherever possible.

Lighting

- The Committee unanimously agreed that bollard lighting should be used on the bridge itself, as long as they do not narrow the shared-use path or sidewalks.
- The light fixtures should match what is currently on the causeway's Shared Use Path and be shielded from the mariners below.
- For energy efficiency and maintenance purposes, the bulbs should be LEDs, the same used by the Town of Tisbury.

Tender's House

- The Committee unanimously agreed on the general design of the tender's house.
- The Committee unanimously agreed that the chimney is not visually pleasing and seems to break up the simplicity of the plan. Comments were made as to why it wasn't included in the January 26th plan. If at all possible, could alternative venting options be provided, such as through a side vent?
- The shingles for the house should be white cedar, a more natural look, as opposed to a bleached or stained shingle.
- Could another window be installed on the wall to increase the operator's visibility?

Landscaping

- The Committee unanimously agreed that honey locusts are not the species of choice, and that a species which will provide more shade be used instead.
- Are hydrangeas a good use in this location?
- The Committee would very much like that Carlos Montoya, local expert on native plants, be included in the selection process of plant materials.
- Will the restroom pads be portable or permanent? Maintenance might be an issue.
- Tisbury DPW Director, Fred LaPiana is working with the state on extending the sewer line to serve the bridge.

- Will the park benches and picnic tables be heavy weight, and/or chained to an anchor? Should they be light weight, that way they can be shifted, and relocated if need be for easy maintenance?

Signage and Interpretive Elements

- The Committee unanimously agreed that all signage should be as small as possible.
- What was the name of the original bridge? A group from both towns should investigate.
- A 2 to 3 person group from both towns should conduct a brainstorming session on identifying what types of elements be used, i.e. plaque, sculpture, mural, etc. as well as placement. From there, criteria for solicitation of ideas should go to the Board of Selectmen.

Additional Comments

- The Committee members unanimously agreed that they would like to review the proposed signage whenever it becomes available.
- A request from Jay Wilbur (VH Harbormaster), should be included which asks for a boat tie-up under the bridge for official boats only.

The draft letter compiling these comments will be revised and sent to MDOT by Friday February 27, 2012.

4. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Drawbridge Committee will be held on April 4, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. at the Martha's Vineyard Commission.

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.