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## **Martha's Vineyard Commission Land Use Planning Committee Notes of the Mtg of August 16, 2010**

Held in the Stone Building, New York Avenue, Oak Bluffs. 5:30 P.M.

Commissioners Present: Linda Sibley, Christina Brown, Pete Cabana, Chris Murphy, Kathy Newman, Fred Hancock, John Breckenridge, Brian Smith.

MVC Staff Present: Mark London, Jo-Ann Taylor, Bill Veno.

### **1. O.B. Fishing Pier (DRI 628) Pre-Public Hearing Review**

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Present for the Applicant: Douglas H. Cameron (Dept. Fish & Game), Michael Dutton (O.B. Town Manager), Carlos Pena (consultant)

Other town board representation: Liz Durkee (Conservation Agent)(referring board)

Others: William Alwardt, Robert Weiss, Stephen Morris, Wally White, Bob Jacobs, Janet Messineo-Israel, Michele Jones, Jim Fraser, Belleruth Naparstek, Maureen Anderson, H. Denny Russell (Harvey), Jason Lew, Injy Lew, David Nash, Walter C. Lison.

**Project Location:** Sea View Avenue Extension, Oak Bluffs, Map 9, Lot 58

**Proposal:** To construct and maintain a pile-supported, ADA-accessible public shore fishing pier.

Linda Sibley chaired the meeting.

John Breckenridge disclosed that he is a member of the Oak Bluffs Conservation Commission, the referring board; noting that he does not feel conflicted.

- Jo-Ann Taylor and Christina Brown summarized the MEPA involvement (see MEPA certificate at [www.mvcommission.org](http://www.mvcommission.org) .
- Doug Cameron spoke about the Dept. of Fish and Game program and the land management agreement with the Town of Oak Bluffs (property owner), signed in November 2007.
  - Facility must be open 24/7 to general public on equal terms; fishing is the only use allowed
  - Dept. Fish & Game funds design, permitting and construction, and is responsible for major repairs or replacement; town is responsible for policing and day-to-day maintenance.
- Mike Dutton gave background, noting that the M.V. Surfcasters had contacted Doug.
- Carlos Pena, CLE Engineering, hired by the Commonwealth, explained that CLE is also working on a sediment transport study for the Town; and the next seawall segment, from the

new seawall to the SSA, with bathrooms and 70,000 yd<sup>3</sup> of beach nourishment. The handicapped ramp will slope 1:12 from the bathrooms area down to the fishing pier.

- Kathy Newman asked how the Town will manage the 24/7 use, and Doug responded that it will help that fishing is the only allowed use.
- Kathy asked for examples of other similar piers in the program. Doug responded that they have had no other noise complaints; they have 5 other fishing piers, with the most popular, Bass River, hosting 10-12 people at a time, the others 4-5 people. He anticipates that this one will be more popular.
- John Breckenridge suggested that numbers from Memorial Wharf in Edgartown might be helpful.
- John Hancock asked for description of means to keep boats from tying up and kids from jumping off.
- Peter Cabana suggested tying both projects together, the riprap, etc. and beach nourishment. He asked about progress in design, with the response that the pier is in preliminary design, about 25% and the landside work conceptual only.
- Peter also asked about maintaining the structure.
- John asked about other areas, asked for discussion of pros and cons of other areas; asked for impacts of the proposed pier on sand movement, and how that would change if the location were to change.
- Linda added that the explanation could focus on why this location was chosen over another.
- Chris Murphy said that the North Bluff folks and MVC need a sales job, and asked about a bond for final decommissioning of the structure.
- Peter asked why timber piles were chosen.
- Mark London asked if only the pier were built, without the seawall work, would there still be handicapped access.
- John asked about cost differences for handicapped access at this location compared to other potential sites.
- Brian Smith asked what's the enforcement, with the response from Doug "state law".
- Injy Lew asked if the State will assume liability as long as the pier exists.
- Belleruth Naparstek noted that she finds the pier "humongous" and noted that there seem to be differences of opinion about how available fish are.
- John asked if the pier will have its own restrooms, with the response "no".
- Fred Hancock asked for a timeframe for construction, with the response from Mike Dutton that the work would ideally all be done together.
- Peter asked for definition of what could happen if just the pier is constructed.
- Scope for traffic will be discussed at a subsequent LUPC Committee mtg.
- Regarding the request to waive fees, Linda noted that MVC generally exempts government agencies from filing fees other than bills such as advertizing.
- Jason Lew asked if everyone is aware that it is a swimming beach.
- Peter asked for pictures of other piers. David Nash added that there might be some examples from other states as well.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30.

Notes prepared by Jo-Ann Taylor