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Comprehensive Island Planning Underway

The Martha's Vineyard Comprehensive Planning Process is getting underway.

The Steering Committee has begun regular monthly meetings, and has set up two subcommittees, one to work with staff on preparation of a work program, and the other to propose membership of an Advisory Committee and various task forces.

Meetings are telecast on MVTV. Meeting minutes and other background documents are available on the MVC website.

MVC Seeking Transportation

Planner: The MVC is seeking a new transportation planner, after the departure of Srinivas Sattoor. For information, contact Jeff Wooden.

www.mvcommission.org

MARTHA'S VINEYARD COMMISSION

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Drawbridge Meeting December 7



A public meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 7 at 5:30 p.m. in the Oak Bluffs Library about the MassHighway replacement of the Lagoon Pond Drawbridge.

It will include an update on the existing bridge, including the results of a recent engineering study on its condition, on the plans to build a temporary drawbridge next to the existing bridge starting next year, and to then build a permanent drawbridge in the alignment of the existing bridge. There will be an opportunity for questions and discussion.

The meeting is sponsored by the Oak Bluffs and Tisbury Boards of Selectmen, the Martha's Vineyard Commission, and the Lagoon Pond Drawbridge Committee.

For a summary of the current situation, go to the MVC website at www.mvcommission.org and search for "drawbridge update".

Renovations to Stone Building



The Commission has just about completed the replacement of the porch in front of the Stone Building on New York Avenue in Oak Bluffs. The previous stone porch was collapsing and the front door had been closed for several years, until the Commission could amass a budget for the repair. When it was clear that the stone porch had to be replaced and that it was not feasible to do it in stone, the MVC asked architect Bruce MacNelly to design a compatible wood version. The contractor was Castle Construction. We are still putting the finishing touches on the handrails and plan to stain the wood in the spring.

New Administrative Assistant



Donna-Lee Stewart joined the MVC staff in November. Donna has fifteen years experience as an Executive Assistant and five years in Marketing and Licensing. After summering on the Island for ten years, she moved here in 1998, commuting to New York City until she accepted employment at the Martha's Vineyard Camp-Meeting Association.

Hospital Site Study

The Martha's Vineyard Hospital has met the Martha's Vineyard Commission on three occasions over the past year. On each occasion, Commissioners expressed concern that the Hospital Board had not fully explained to the community the reasons for rebuilding on the existing site, rather than moving to a new, more central location.

The proposed reconstruction of the hospital offers the community a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to ensure that it is well located. The Vineyard will live with the consequences of this important land-use decision for generations to come, and the MVC takes seriously its responsibility as the land use planning and regulatory agency of the Vineyard.

Obviously, rebuilding the whole hospital, Windemere, and related facilities in a new location would cost more. However, some Commissioners questioned whether the additional expense might be warranted, given several concerns about the existing site related to its small size, to its location where hurricanes and storms could affect the hospital and access roads, and to other issues including parking and open space. Some Commissioners also questioned some of the cost estimates and suggested that the extra cost of relocating to a larger, more central, location might not be as great as the Hospital's preliminary estimate.

At the end of a recent Commission meeting about the project, the Hospital and Commission agreed to work together on an identification of site alternatives. This might well confirm that rebuilding on the existing site is the best solution, or it might find that relocating to a more central location turns out to be feasible after all.

High School Area Plan

The Martha's Vineyard Commission is working with the Oak Bluffs Board of Selectmen, the Oak Bluffs Planning Board, and the Land Use Committee of the Regional District on an overall plan of the area around the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School. An informal committee has been set up that also includes representatives from the various institutions including the Arena, Community Services, the YMCA, the Resident Homesite Committee, and the Land Bank. Sub-committees have been set up to look specifically at vehicular, bicycle, and pedestrian circulation, and at the possibility of putting in place a district approach to wastewater treatment.

Upcoming Meetings

Wednesday, December 7, 9:00am

Drawbridge Committee
MVC Offices

Wednesday, December 7, 10:30am

Joint Transportation Committee
MVC Offices

Wednesday, December 7, 5:30pm

Drawbridge Public Meeting
Oak Bluffs Library

Thursday, December 8, 5:00pm

CIP Steering Committee
MVC Offices

Tuesday, December 13, 5:00pm

Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee
MVC Offices

Wednesday, December 14, 12:30pm

Water Alliance
MVC Offices

Wednesday, December 14, 5:00pm

Affordable Housing Groups
MVC Offices

Please check the Calendar section of the MVC website for the latest updates.

DRI Status Report

The following are current Developments of Regional Impact.

Our Market – Modification, Oak Bluffs. (#4-M) *Non-Concurrence* 10/20/05

10 State Road – Site clearing, Tisbury. *CR Non-Concurrence* 10/20/05

7 Beach Street Demolition and Reconstruction, Tisbury (# 557-M) *Approved* 10/20/05

117 Beach Road – Conversion, Tisbury. *Withdrawn*.

Cozy Hearth – Subdivision, Edgartown. (#584) *DD* 12/08/05.

World Revival Church – Construction, Edgartown (#587) *PH* 12/15/05

Woodland Business Center – Expansion, Tisbury (#39-M) *LUPC* 12/12/05

Kennedy Estate Plan – Subdivision, Aquinnah (#589) *LUPC* 12/19/05

Vineyard Gardens – Garden center, West Tisbury (#581) *Application incomplete*.

Vineyard Assembly of God – Construction, Tisbury (#322M) *Application incomplete*.

Rutkiewicz Subdivision – West Tisbury (#488) *LUPC* 5/2/05. *On hold*.

1986 Evelyn Way Trust – Tisbury (#576) *On hold at Applicant's request*

Tarklin Subdivision – Edgartown (#470-M3) *On hold at Applicant's request*.

Vineyard Golf Club Housing – Edgartown (#484-M4) *Application incomplete*.

*LUPC Land Use Planning Committee review
CR Commission Concurrence Review
PH Commission Public Hearing
DD Commission deliberation and decision
WD Commission vote on written decision
t.b.d. to be determined*

All meetings at the Commission offices unless otherwise noted. (Information: Paul Foley at extension 18 or check the website)