

Dukes County Commission

Minutes

**Wednesday, December 11, 2013
5:00P.M.**

Dukes County Administration Building
9 Airport Road, Edgartown, MA

Present:

Dukes County Commissioners (DCC): Chair Tom Hallahan, **Tristan Israel, Melinda Loberg, Christine Todd and **Leon Brathwaite, **John Alley

County Staff: Martina Thornton – County Manager, Connie Andrade - Administrative Assistant to the County Manager, Sarah Kuh – VHCAP Director, Maria Mouzinho - VHCAP

Others: Michelle Vivian – MVTV, Bill Straus – CVEC Tisbury, Peter Cabana – CVEC, Kerry Alley – Red Stocking Fund, Lorraine Clark – Red Stocking Fund

** Arrived late or left early

The meeting was called to order at 5:04PM.

Minutes:

Christine/Tristan made a motion to approve the minutes from November 13, 2013. So voted. All in favor. Motion carries.

Leon Brathwaite arrived at 5:06 after the vote to approve the minutes.

Recognition of Kerry Alley & Lorraine Clark – Red Stocking Fund:

The DCC thanked Lorraine Clark for 30 years of service and Kerry Alley for 20 years. This will be their last year and the DCC presented them with Award Certificates. They thanked the island residents for making this program a success.

Steamship Authority (SSA) Update – Marc Hanover:

Marc gave an update on the SSA's construction in Woods Hole and the new parking lot in Falmouth. At a recent Falmouth Selectman's meeting several people requested that the SSA run the ferries out of New Bedford. This would not be cost efficient and would cause numerous cancellations because of the boats going over open waters. Along with the new terminal in Woods Hole, the SSA is also looking to replace the freight boat the Governor with one that will hold 55 cars and 400 passengers. The train to Hyannis was more of a success for the Hyannis/Nantucket trips than the Woods Hole (MV trips). The SSA sent buses to meet the train and only 435 people were transported to the SSA in Woods Hole from the train in Hyannis.

Mass in Motion (MIM)-Complete Streets Proposal:

Martina said MIM is a grant that the County is administering for healthy and active living on the Vineyard. Martina told the DCC that the Complete Streets is a program that the State and the Department of Transportation (DOT) is adopting. MIM is working on safe routes to school and maps of the neighborhoods to see if they can bike or walking paths. If a person has a GIS on their phone they would be able to see where the trails and paths are. Oak Bluffs recently received a large grant to improve the infrastructure around the school.

Beach Rules Revision Sub-Committee Update:

Christine gave the DCC an update on reviewing the rules and regulations for State Beach, Norton Point and Eastville Beach. Christine and Tristan will meet and go over the conformity issues. In some instances, there are reasons for different rules for the different beaches. In regards to the dog rules and trash, the fining process should be consistent. Once Christine and Tristan decide which areas need the most attention, they will meet with the Barrier Beach Task Force (BBTF) to gain consensus and should be ready to present something to the DCC by February. Martina said on Saturday December 7th there was a meeting at the State Forest that DCR held regarding resource management and planning for the Nickerson Track Complex which includes State Beach. Since no one notified Martina of the meeting, she did not attend. A discussion was held. Melinda said that the MV Commission (MVC) was also writing a letter to DCR about their lack of communication. Tristan would also like the issue of the people jumping off the bridge to be addressed with DCR.

Leon/Tristan made a motion to send a letter to DCR with our concern requesting that they extend the January 8th deadline for comments to January 30th and to cc our Representatives and Governor. So voted. All in favor. Motion carries.

Cape Light Compact (CLC) Request for Proposal (RFP), Cape & Vineyard Electric Co-Op (CVEC) Update-Peter Cabana:

Peter Cabana said CLC will be doing an RFP next April and anyone can bid including Dominion. There is a chance that within the next year NStar's rates may be less than CLC. CLC has been less than NStar about 65% of the time. It is Peter's suggestion that the DCC stay with the CLC. They have been successful in ground mounted solar array projects. There was a kickoff meeting today with the contractor and the towns of Edgartown and Tisbury with work starting next week. Their projects will generate 4 megawatts of electricity. This is insufficient and Peter thinks we should continue with the airport PV project. The Airport PV will be addressed in their Master Plan. In order to utilize the fire lanes in the State Forrest it has to go thru the State. Peter has written letters to Senator Wolf and Representative Madden asking for permission to use the fire lanes. He has also scheduled a meeting with the CVAC board to discuss MV Airport and what issues need to be resolved. Peter would like to be on the agenda for the meeting after January 17th with hopes to bring additional information to the DCC and possibly bring member from CVAC so they can give more details on the benefits of the program. A discussion was held. Tom recommended that any talks regarding the Airport go through the Airport Commission. Martina said we can ask Sean to come on Jan. 22nd and have him give an update on the Airport's master plan.

Administrative Code Review Sub-Committee – Update:

Melinda gave an update on the Administrative Code Review. Martine, Leon and Melinda did some modifications including reformatting and deleting departments that no longer exist. Melinda said they are working on the section about how the County Manager interacts with other Departments Heads including the elected ones. The Sub-Committee feels there needs to be a larger discussion on some of the amendments and is recommending for it to be part of the visioning session.

Chairman's Report:

Tom said that Steve from the Collins Center will be interviewing individuals and is deciding who should be part of that process. He also said that since 2013 is nearly over, the DCC should consider who will be elected for Chairman and Vice-Chair for 2014.

FY14 Capital Improvement Budget:

Tom said the DCC recently approved \$150K to be placed in the Capital Improvement budget for the courthouse. Martina would like to use \$50,000.00 for painting the courthouse and the other \$100K was for electrical upgrade. In order to use the monies, the DCC must establish a Capital Improvement Budget. Martina is requesting to move \$50K from the Capital Improvement General Fund into the FY14 Capital Improvement Budget to be used for painting.

John Alley arrives at 6:04pm

Tristan/Melinda made a motion to move \$50,000.00 from the Capital Improvement General Fund to the FY14 Capital Improvement Budget to be used for painting at the courthouse. So voted. All in favor. Motion carries.

FY2015 Budget – First Draft:

Martina is preparing the FY15 Budget and has asked all the Department Heads for their worksheets. Tom said he'd like to see the first draft by the Jan. 22nd meeting or the beginning of February. The Airport has a different timeline than the County. Martina said the joint meeting with the CAB for the budget approval will be in the last two weeks of February. A discussion was held. Tristan asked if we would have the Registry's revenue projections.

Manager's Report:

- **DCR:**
Martina wanted the public to know that other than the State Beach the properties included in the DCR's Mickerson Complex on MV are South Beach, State Forrest and a fire tower in West Tisbury. If the public has any concerns or comments the deadline is January 10th, 2014. Melinda said that the Dogfish Bar should be included in the properties managed by the DCR. Tristan said it would be nice to have a presentation from the DCR as to how they manage the State Forrest and what it entails. Tom said to try to schedule it for our February meeting.

**Tristan left at 6:15pm

- **MIM Initiative:**
One part of the MIM goals is to help people that need food assistance to ask and for healthier food options. In partnership with VHCAP and Helping Hands the MIM is planning for a SNAP food stamps sign up every Friday starting with January 10th from 9am to noon at the VHCAP building in Oak Bluffs.
- **VHCAP FY15 Budget:**
The VHCAP FY15 Budget has been passed by the County Advisory Board (CAB) and has been submitted to the Towns to be placed on their warrant articles. Letters were also sent to each town's Board of Selectmen to ask them to appoint one person to the oversight board.

- **Courthouse:**
The 2nd phase of the courthouse window repairs RFP has been advertised. The due date is Friday December 19th at 4:00pm. Martina has been to all the towns except Aquinnah for the CPC meetings for funding for the electrical. Chilmark and Tisbury CPC's have recommended it for approval. Oak Bluffs CPC was very supportive. Martina did find out that 81% of these funds will be returned to us by the State through their rent agreement. Once we receive those funds back they will be returned to each town's CPC.
- **Administration Building:**
Martina received approval from the Airport Commission to install the generator. We are now waiting for the contractors to do their work.
- **State Beach:**
The Oak Bluffs Conservation Committee approved the Spotted Nap Weed study that was proposed by the County and will take five years to complete.
- **PV Solar Project:**
At the last DCC, we rejected the bid for the PV project. Martina would like clarification of what the DCC would like to do regarding the land available from Steamship. Do we just want ½ acre for the Center for Living (C4L) building or a larger lot in case we want to expand the building? A discussion was held. Tom recommended putting this issue on the Jan. 8th meeting agenda. John said the Airport Commission wants to know what exactly the County is looking for. Martina said the first thing we need to decide is how much land we need. Christine said she is in favor of having a piece of land that offers the options for other services to be added to it down the road.

MV Commission Nomination:

Melinda/Leon made a motion to appoint Lenny Jason as representative for one year to the Martha's Vineyard Commission. So voted. All in favor. Motion carries.

New Business:

Christine would like the DCC to address the situation of the homeless and that is an area the DCC needs to look at. She would also like to have Connie Teixeira Assoc. Commissioner for the Homeless to come and give an update.

Old Business:

No old business was discussed.

John/Christine made a motion to adjourn the meeting. So voted. All in favor.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted by:

JOSEPH E. SOLLITTO JR., Clerk of the Courts

Documents presented at the meeting and part of the official records:

- Agenda

- Budget for Courthouse Windows