



Martha's Vineyard Land Bank Commission

MINUTES REGULAR SESSION MEETING OF JUNE 15, 2020

via remote technology

CALL TO ORDER: 1:01 pm

LAND BANK COMMISSIONERS PRESENT AT CALL TO ORDER

Pamela Goff, Richard Knight, Jr., Wesley Mott, Kristen Reimann, Sarah Thulin,
Nancy Weaver

LAND BANK COMMISSIONERS ABSENT AT CALL TO ORDER

Mary Robin Ravitch

STAFF PRESENT AT CALL TO ORDER

James Lengyel, Ian Peach

OTHERS PRESENT AT CALL TO ORDER (and not cited elsewhere herein)

Philip Cordella, Roberta Kirn, John Ross

PRESENTATION OF THE WARRANT

Warrant no. 2020-38 was made available for the Commission's inspection.

PUBLIC INPUT

1. Agency Administration: General

Philip Cordella asked questions about posting of land bank minutes; the Trade Wind Fields Preserve; and communication among commissioners and to and from the executive director.

Roberta Kirn stated that she was interested in access to the Ice House Pond at the Manaquayak Preserve this summer.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

By a motion made and seconded, the Commission voted unanimously in a roll call vote to approve the agenda as written.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JUNE 8, 2020

By a motion made and seconded, the Commission voted unanimously in a roll call vote to approve the minutes as written.

COUNTY AND LAND BANK COMMISSION TREASURERS' REPORTS

None

TRANSFER FEE REVENUES

Revenues for the week ending June 12, 2020: \$253,482.00

NEW BUSINESS

1. Manaquayak Preserve (Town of West Tisbury)

The Commission reviewed a June 11, 2020 staff memorandum that reports that the West Tisbury health agent recommends closure of the Ice House Pond to public swimming until further notice, owing to contagion concerns.

Land superintendent Ian Peach stated that the pond is akin to a pool, in that the water is accessed via one long dock with a ladder at its end; he noted that the dock has not been installed this year. Commissioners variously discussed (1.) whether the health agent has the authority to mandate a closure, as the land bank had asked merely for guidance; (2.) whether the property is being attended, as members of the public are apt to use it anyway; (3.) creative options for allowing access (e.g., scheduled visits arranged electronically); (4.) whether nearby Seth's Pond is or is not a comparable situation, such that the public's use of it this summer would be instructive; and the like. It was agreed that staff would be in regular communication with the health agent as events unfold.

2. Trade Wind Fields Preserve (Town of Oak Bluffs)

The Commission discussed its contract with its airport services coordinator here, Fr. Michael Nagle; it calls for an annual review of services. Mr. Peach has assessed his performance and recommends that the contract be extended for another twelve months.

After discussion and by a motion made and seconded, the Commission voted unanimously in a roll call vote to accept its land superintendent's recommendation. Mrs. Thulin and Mr. Lengyel involuntarily departed the meeting during the vote due to technical difficulties.

3. Agency Land Management: Purchase of Supplies

The Commission reviewed a June 11, 2020 staff memorandum requesting authorization to purchase, from the Polly Hill Arboretum, a wide variety of native plants "to diversify habitats at select properties and open habitat

restoration projects.” The price is \$2,358. After discussion and by a motion made and seconded, the Commission voted unanimously in a roll call vote to approve the expenditure.

PUBLIC INPUT

1. Agency Administration: General

John Ross noted the current use of Ice House Pond at the Manaquayak Preserve. Roberta Kirn spoke to options for opening the pond this summer. Philip Cordella also spoke to Manaquayak; and to recording of Commission meetings. Mrs. Thulin and Mr. Lengyel returned to the meeting during this discussion.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

By a motion made and seconded, the Commission voted unanimously in a roll call vote to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing the purchase, lease, exchange or value of real property. Mrs. Thulin stated that the subjects to be discussed are the purchase or value of real property and declared that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Commission. She further announced that the Commission would reconvene in regular session after the conclusion of the executive session. 1:48 pm

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION: 2:00 pm

NEW BUSINESS (continued)

4. Agency Administration: Performance Evaluation

Staff excused itself and the Commission conducted its annual review of the performance of its executive director. Mrs. Thulin will share the results with Mr. Lengyel.

ADJOURNMENT

By a motion made and seconded, the Commission voted unanimously in a roll call vote to adjourn. 2:19 pm

certification:



Sarah Thulin, Chairman