



# Martha's Vineyard Land Bank Commission

## MINUTES REGULAR SESSION MEETING OF JUNE 17, 2019

Public Library. West Tisbury, Massachusetts

CALL TO ORDER: 3:55 pm

LAND BANK COMMISSIONERS PRESENT AT CALL TO ORDER

Pamela Goff, Wesley Mott, Mary Robin Ravitch, Sarah Thulin, Nancy Weaver

LAND BANK COMMISSIONERS ABSENT AT CALL TO ORDER

Richard Knight, Jr., Kristen Reimann

STAFF PRESENT AT CALL TO ORDER

James Lengyel, Julie Russell

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

None

PUBLIC INPUT

*The following members of the West Tisbury Town Advisory Board were present for the following discussion: Richard Cohen, Leah Smith, Andrew Woodruff.*

1. Priester's Pond Preserve (Town of West Tisbury)

Prudence Burt was present. She identified herself as a member of the Mill Brook Watershed Management Planning Committee and distributed (1.) a document entitled *Mill Brook Watershed Study Report and Recommendations 2014 - 2018*; (2.) a document entitled *Edey Foundation Report. Mill Brook Water Temperature Study 2013 and 2014*; and (3.) a cover letter, from her, dated June 17, 2019.

Noting that the land bank has conserved a number of properties in the valley, she asked Commissioners to "consider taking measures to improve stream health and connectivity." She spoke specifically of (1.) upgrading culverts, where perched, to meet contemporary stream crossing standards; and (2.)

removing dams, to eliminate them as obstacles to fish passage and in order to reduce water temperatures. She noted that multiple sources of grant money were available for such undertakings.

Commissioners had most recently discussed this matter at their April 29, 2019 meeting, in which they charged staff to study options and return with a report; Ms. Russell reported that the staff report will soon be completed. Mrs. Goff noted that dam removal is expensive, what with required tasks such as sediment analysis. In response to a question about fish ladders from Mrs. Thulin, Ms. Burt reported that they have not proven effective with the species — american eel; brook trout; and brook lamprey — that exist on the Vineyard.

The Commission agreed that it would await the staff report before considering this matter further. Mss. Burt and Russell departed the meeting at this time.

#### 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. The Commission entered executive session at 4:11 pm.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION: 5:17 pm

#### PRESENTATION OF THE WARRANT

Warrant no. 2019-26 was made available for the Commission's inspection.

#### APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

By a motion made and seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the agenda as presented

#### APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JUNE 10, 2019

By a motion made and seconded, the Commission voted four in favor, none opposed and Ms. Ravitch abstaining to approve the minutes as written.

#### COUNTY AND LAND BANK COMMISSION TREASURERS' REPORTS

None

TRANSFER FEE REVENUES

Revenues for the week ending June 14, 2019: \$347,954.00

NEW BUSINESS

1. Agency Administration: Fiscal Year 2019 Audit

Mr. Lengyel advised the Commission, as a public disclosure, that Melanie Krauss, daughter of fiscal officer Cynthia Krauss, recently took a position with O'Connor and Drew, the land bank's auditors. Her position does not involve her in any way with the preparation of the institution's financial statements. As no action was necessary, the Commission took none.

2. Aquinnah Headlands Preserve (Town of Aquinnah)

Mr. Lengyel reported that Kai Quinlan, a location manager for a film company, recently sought permission to use land bank land for film-making, which he informed her was proscribed by land bank policy. She then asked for permission to cross Moshup Beach in a vehicle(s) to reach an off-premises location for such filming.

After discussion and by a motion made and seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to direct staff to inform Ms. Quinlan that such vehicular use is prohibited; she is free to hire staff to carry, by hand, equipment across the land bank property to reach the off-premises site.

ENDORSEMENT OF THE WARRANT

The Commission endorsed Warrant no. 2019-26.

ADJOURNMENT

By a motion made and seconded, the Commission voted unanimously in a roll call vote to adjourn. 5:29 pm

certification:

  
Mary Robin Ravitch, Secretary