



Martha's Vineyard Land Bank Commission

MINUTES REGULAR SESSION MEETING OF JUNE 29, 2020

via remote technology

CALL TO ORDER: 3:00 pm

LAND BANK COMMISSIONERS PRESENT AT CALL TO ORDER

Pamela Goff, Wesley Mott, Sarah Thulin, Nancy Weaver, Peter Wells

LAND BANK COMMISSIONERS ABSENT AT CALL TO ORDER

Kristen Reimann

STAFF PRESENT AT CALL TO ORDER

James Lengyel, Julie Russell

OTHERS PRESENT DURING THE SESSION

Philip Cordella, Amanda Dickinson, Roberta Kirn, Susan Phelps

By a motion made and seconded, the Commission voted unanimously in a roll call vote the following resolution:

We, the members of the Martha's Vineyard Land Bank Commission, express our profound sorrow at the untimely loss of our colleague and friend Richard S. Knight Jr. A commissioner from 1987 to 1996, Dick was elected to a new term in 2019. Always thoroughly prepared and a leader on committees, he presented his views with conviction and civility. We miss his wit, dedication, patience, and kindness. This resolution is included in the minutes of today's meeting and we ask our executive director to convey our sentiments to Dick's family.

PRESENTATION OF THE WARRANT

Warrant no. 2020-40 was made available for the Commission's inspection.

PUBLIC INPUT

1. Agency Land Management: Various

Amanda Dickinson, Roberta Kirn and Susan Phelps each spoke to the value of re-opening to public swimming the Ice House Pond at the Manaquayak Preserve. Staff is soon scheduled to check in with the West Tisbury health agent, at whose request the pond was closed, and members of the public may choose to do likewise. Ms. Kirn also inquired about the cliff stairs at the Ramble Trail Preserve.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JUNE 15, 2020

By a motion made and seconded, the Commission voted in a roll call vote four in favor, none opposed and Mr. Wells abstaining to approve the minutes as written.

COUNTY AND LAND BANK COMMISSION TREASURERS' REPORTS

None

TRANSFER FEE REVENUES

Revenues for the week ending June 19, 2020: \$157,000.00

Revenues for the week ending June 26, 2020: \$187,306.90

NEW BUSINESS

1. Agency Administration: Election of Officers

By a motion made and seconded, the Commission voted unanimously in a roll call vote to appoint Mr. Mott as secretary-treasurer.

2. Agency Administration: Website

Staff reported that the Oak Bluffs Town Advisory Board, at its June 19, 2020 meeting, discussed the possibility of uploading the agency's land management plans on its website; it was the sense of the Board that the Commission should do so. Ecologist Julie Russell, who drafts these plans, noted that, to honor the commonwealth practice of not divulging rare species data, the plans would need to be redacted for this purpose; she noted as well that, since these plans span several decades and some are no longer extant in the land bank's computer system, redaction of the older plans would require additional effort. It was agreed that she would do so in the short-term for the more recent plans, which would then be uploaded, and attend to the balance as time permits. In the meantime, print versions are available to anyone who requests them.

3. Agency Administration: Fiscal Year 2021 Budget

Staff reported that each of the Town Advisory Boards had approved the budget for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2020. After discussion and by a motion made and seconded, the Commission voted in a roll call vote four in favor, none opposed and Mr. Wells abstaining to do likewise.

PUBLIC INPUT

1. Agency Administration and Land Management: Various

Philip Cordella addressed the uploading of the management plans on the land bank website; and the Ice House Pond at the Manaquayak Preserve.

ENDORSEMENT OF THE WARRANT

The Commission endorsed Warrant no. 2020-40.

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 not reconvene in regular session after the conclusion of the executive session. The Commission entered executive session at 3:31 pm.

certification:


Sarah Thulin, Chairman