



Martha's Vineyard Land Bank Commission

MINUTES
REGULAR SESSION
MEETING OF AUGUST 19, 2019

167 Main Street. Edgartown, Massachusetts

CALL TO ORDER: 3:45 pm

LAND BANK COMMISSIONERS PRESENT AT CALL TO ORDER

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

LAND BANK COMMISSIONERS ABSENT AT CALL TO ORDER

Richard Knight, Jr.

STAFF PRESENT AT CALL TO ORDER

James Lengyel

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

Philip Cordella

PRESENTATION OF THE WARRANT

Warrant no. 2020-04 was made available for the Commission's inspection.

PUBLIC INPUT

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

Philip Cordella stated that the dog-walkers and other walkers here "did not do irreparable harm" to the grassland — it "came back so quickly." He recommended a "comprehensive study" and also stated that the land bank should consider opening up parts of the field to public use and then close it again if it doesn't work. He noted that right now "the place looks beautiful." Mrs. Thulin stated that she believes that the preserve's grassland looks beautiful because it has been protected by the fence.

He added that a friend reported speaking to the land bank goatherd, who was reported to be working inside the fence, and he wonders if the fields

here are under consideration as goat pasture. The Commissioners stated that they are not.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 12, 2019

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

COUNTY AND LAND BANK COMMISSION TREASURERS' REPORTS

None

TRANSFER FEE REVENUES

Revenues for the week ending August 16, 2019: \$256,769.45

NEW BUSINESS

1. John Presbury Norton Farm (Town of West Tisbury)

The Commission reviewed an application filed with the West Tisbury Board of Appeals by neighbor Carter Hakala for a special permit "to construct a 1400 square foot barn containing an accessory apartment, studio, office and garage storage."

After discussion and by a motion made and seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to make no comment.

2. Quays Corner (Town of Oak Bluffs)

The Land Bank Commission will review an application filed with the Oak Bluffs Conservation Commission by abutter Henry Corey (estate of) "to upgrade a septic system serving an existing single-family dwelling."

After discussion and by a motion made and seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to make no comment.

3. Agency Land Management: Personnel and Staffing

The Commission discussed a request from the Edgartown conservation agent for approval to allow land bank ecologist Julie Russell to be a member of the Edgartown Conservation Commission's Katama Farm stewardship committee.

After discussion and by a motion made and seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to approve Ms. Russell's participation on this committee.

She will advise the Commission if doing so consumes an undue amount of time.

4. Agency Policy: Hunting on Land Bank Properties

The Commission continued, from its August 12, 2019 meeting, its discussion of hunting on land bank properties in Tisbury. In particular, Commissioners reviewed an August 15, 2019 letter from the town administrator in which he informs the land bank that the town's bylaw applies only to town-owned land.

As a result, the land bank is free, if it wishes, to permit deer-shotgun and other types of hunting at the Ripley's Field Preserve, Tisbury Meadow Preserve and Wapatequa Woods Reservation.

After discussion and by a motion made and seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to refer this matter to its Tisbury Town Advisory Board, in order to learn if it wishes to consider amending these properties' management plans to permit same.

ENDORSEMENT OF THE WARRANT

The Commission endorsed Warrant no. 2020-04.

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 3:59 pm.

certification: 
Mary Robin Ravitch, Secretary