

Selectmen's Meeting

June 25, 2012

4:00 pm

A meeting of the Board was held on the above date in the Fred B. Morgan Jr. Meeting Room, Town Hall. Members present were: Michael J. Donaroma, Chairman; Margaret Serpa; and Arthur Smadbeck. Also present was Ms. Pamela Dolby, Town Administrator.

At 4:00 pm Mr. Donaroma opened the meeting and recognized Mr. Fred (Ted) B. Morgan Jr.

Mr. Morgan stated that this was his last year organizing the parade. He was finding that he was having memory issues and that was not good for planning. He enjoys most marching and the crowds and plans on continuing to march and help out in a limited capacity. He asked the Board to judge the floats.

The Board accepted the request to judge the floats and thanked Mr. Morgan for his years of service. The room then gave Mr. Morgan a rousing standing ovation.

Ms. Dolby stated that Mr. Joe Sollitto had volunteered to head the parade with the American Legion.

Mr. Sollitto stated that nobody could take Ted's place. He was happy to take up the reins and had been participating in the parade since 1972. The whole Legion was going to pitch in and help.

Mr. Morgan then thanked Ms. Dolby and Ms. Kristy Rose for all their help with the office work associated with the parade.

Mr. Donaroma stated that most of the Legion would not be new to the parade. It was a good fit.

He then recognized Mr. Bob Stone from the Katama Airfield Commission. Mr. Stone stated that he and the Commission were frustrated with the long process of getting permission to build the new hangar. He gave a brief history of the hangar project through the years. The plans have been approved by everyone, including the Martha's Vineyard Commission. The only thing holding it up at this point is the Conservation Restriction (CR) from the Nature Conservancy.

Mr. Morgan added that it is very frustrating. He doesn't understand why they are dragging their feet on the issue.

Mr. Donaroma referred to Ms. Jane Varkonda, Conservation Agent, for more information.

Ms. Varkonda replied that the act of the legislature from 2011 requires updates to the CR and the Management Plan. The CR process is now a lot more complicated. It's gone from a few pages to 30 or so. They are also adding the Nickerson Property to the area covered by the CR. Town Counsel Cynthia Wansiewicz has been working hard to hash out all the details. There are only one or two more things that need to be settled that have to do with runway maintenance. Ms. Varkonda indicated that Atty. Wansiewicz feels confident that they are close and expects a reply from the Nature Conservancy lawyer by July 10th. She has said that the town can start the bidding process.

Mr. Morgan stated that he knows Ms. Varkonda has worked hard to come to an agreement everyone can live with. He feels it has been very one sided with the Town giving everything and the Nature Conservancy taking.

Mr. Stone stated that he could not recommend signing the new CR until he has reviewed it completely.

Mr. Mike Creato, Manager of the Airport, agreed with Mr. Morgan and Mr. Stone that it has taken far too long to get this project off the ground. He feels as though there has been a lot of foot dragging but, he has also spoken with Atty. Wansiewicz and he feels they are close and wants to see it through.

Mr. Stone stated that the time that has passed has also made the cost of the project go up. He doesn't feel they will have enough money to build the hangar when it is finally time.

Ms. Serpa stated that they could go back to the Community Preservation Committee to request more money once they knew an amount.

Ms. Dolby encouraged Mr. Creato to see Ms. Jen O'Hanlan, the Town Procurement Officer, to start writing the bid package and to go from there.

Mr. Donaroma then recognized Ms. Ann Smith, Chairman of Arts MV.

Ms. Smith stated that Arts MV was started in October 2010 when it received a planning grant to encourage arts and culture tourism to the Island. Arts and culture are 4.2% of the island economy.

She was present to tell the Board that they have teamed up with the Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce for their October arts event “Fall for the Arts in Cape Cod and Martha’s Vineyard”.

The Board thanked her for coming and wished her good luck.

The Board then approved the following items:

Yard Sales for: Eric Bassett, 201 Upper Main St. 7/1; Peter West, 4 Crocker Dr. 6/30; and Valerie Sonnenthal, 9 South St. 7/6.

To Concur with Affordable Housing Trust bills for: \$6,000 for Sullivan and Rogers, and \$11,470 for Heritage Building and Remodeling.

Commercial Marine Licenses for: Russ Lawrence d/b/a High Tide Charter and Guide Service, Island Classic Charters, Mark DeFeo Marine Services, Edwin B. Gentle Jr., Daniel Gilkes d/b/a Clean Sweep Charters, Aquamarine Dock Builders, and Aquamarine Dredge.

One Day Liquor Licenses for: Sheriff’s Meadow Foundation, 40 Meetinghouse Way, 7/16 6-9:30pm; The Firemen’s Association 4th of July BBQ; The Farm Institute, Meals in the Meadow 7/21 5-10pm; Edgartown Library Foundation, Herring Creek Farm, 7/8 12-2pm.

To designate the Police Chief as key enforcer for ABCC regulations. This gives the Police Department ability to enforce ABCC regulations and laws. Ms. Serpa abstained due to her connections with the Police Department. Mr. Smadbeck moved. Mr. Donaroma seconded. Unanimous.

The Board then addressed a letter received from Ms. Bonnie Deitz to request permission to have a craft fair at St. Andrew’s Church on July 21st. Ms. Deitz was present and answered questions from the Board. The road would not be blocked. Traffic would not be impeded. Ms. Serpa moved to approve the request. Mr. Smadbeck seconded. Unanimous.

The Board set a hearing for July 9th at 4pm for the Kelley House who wants to add outdoor seating to their liquor license.

Ms. Dolby stated that the Board had received a petition from the people on Pennywise Path who wanted a portion to be paved. The Highway Superintendent wanted to pave, but there had been a conservation issue. She had to wait for Town Counsel to return from vacation to look into the issue further. She wanted to point out that the town did want to pave the road.

Ms. Dolby then brought up the valet parking downtown. It seems that the employees of the company had been walking around town with signs and knocking on people’s windows in traffic. It was a disruption to traffic flow and she had talked to the owner and put a stop to it.

Ms. Serpa stated that they had only been given permission to do business in the loading zones in front of Chesca’s and Atlantic. She thought it would be a good idea if they were required to come in to a meeting each spring to go over plans for the summer.

Mr. Howie Powers, owner of 74 N. Summer St., was present and expressed frustration at the volume of cars and the lighting used at the lot. It was changing the neighborhood for the worse.

There was discussion of whether this was expansion of a non-conforming use. The valet service had started out small as a service for Boathouse customers and had now grown to a much larger business. It was decided that Ms. Dolby would speak with the Zoning Inspector and find out the best course of action.

The Board then appointed Mr. Mort Fearey to the Community Preservation Committee as the representative from the Finance Committee.

Ms. Serpa moved to adjourn at 4:45 PM. Mr. Smadbeck seconded. Unanimous.

Approved:

Michael J. Donaroma, Chairman

Margaret E. Serpa

Arthur Smadbeck
Board of Selectmen

Respectfully submitted,

Kristy Rose
Assistant