

Selectmen's Meeting

March 30, 2009

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 Arthur Smadbeck, Chairman, and Margaret E. Serpa. Town Administrator Pamela M Dolby was present. Michael J. Donaroma was absent.

At 4:00 pm Chairman Smadbeck opened the Hearing for the application of Martha's Vineyard Taxi to obtain a license to operate in Edgartown. Mr. Morgan Reitzas, owner, was present to represent his business. Also present was the Taxi company's manager, Jeffrey Corr, and representatives from the three existing cab companies in town; John Klingensmith from John's Taxi, Kristen West from Stagecoach, & Colin Butler from Adam Cab. Mr. Reitzas would like to expand his current business and add three cabs in Edgartown. He feels this would cut down his phone business wait time. He and his manager feel that the current system is not efficient for them.

Paul Condlin, Police Chief stated that the Town's taxi needs are already met by the current three companies. He doesn't see the need or the room for another company in town. In 2008 there were 19 cabs and 26 drivers registered in Edgartown and only 10 taxi stand parking spots. He has had no complaints of lack of taxi availability.

The three current taxi companies are against a fourth coming in. They feel they get along now, have good working relationships, and have a good balance of workload. A fourth company would hurt everyone, especially in this economic environment.

Mr. Reitzas brought up the previous fourth company of Accurate Cab.

Mr. Smadbeck pointed out that Accurate Cab was a one man operation that mainly drove at night. His presence took care of a need that was there at the time. The need is no longer there. The gentleman is no longer in business.

Ms. Serpa stated that the Accurate Cab license was in a different economic climate. The Chief says there are no issues with lack of cabs and she is reluctant to adding this license.

Mr. Smadbeck then closed the hearing.

Ms. Serpa moved to deny based on the Police Chief's statement of there not being a need. Mr. Smadbeck seconds and the vote is unanimous.

Mr. Reitzas then stated he would like to appeal on the grounds that the whole board is not present. Chief Condlin pointed out to him that a quorum was present and his next appeal would be through the court system.

At 4:15 p.m., Chairman Smadbeck opened the hearing of Michael Ward who was appealing the Police Chief's denial of him to receive a license to operate a taxi from the Town.

Mr. Ward stated he did not think it was fair to not get a license based on something that happened 18 years ago.

The Chief said he must follow the law and according to section 3.9.2, the incident was terms for denial even if it happened in 1991.

Chairman Smadbeck stated he has trust in the Chief and the regulations and doesn't want to go against them. He closed the hearing.

Ms. Serpa moved to deny based on the Chief's decision. Mr. Smadbeck seconded. It was a unanimous vote.

At 4:25 p.m. there was a discussion with Barbara Prada, Animal Control Officer, regarding the use of the MSPCA building on Vineyard Haven Rd. after the MSPCA moves out. She requested the Selectmen to continue the terms of the two Edgartown members of the ADHOC Shelter Committee until May 1, 2009. There should be a decision by this committee by that time as to how the new shelter is going to run and who will be running it.

Ms. Serpa stated these members should be representing Edgartown's concerns and interest in the shelter project.

Mr. Smadbeck asked what the plans of the County are right now.

Ms. Prada responded that things really weren't specific at this point and that the County is trying to fill the gap that will be left behind by the MSPCA closing. That is why the committee needs to continue its existence at this point.

Ms. Serpa moved to continue Kate Vanderhoop and Bev Fearey as Edgartown's representatives on the ADHOC Shelter Committee and that the Selectmen support use of private funds to finance this endeavor. The use of Town funds is not an option. The Town does not have the money.

Mr. Smadbeck seconded and would like to send a letter to the County pointing out this should be a barebones operation and that the Town did not intend to pitch in any finances. Unanimous vote.

The minutes were approved from March 23, 2009. Ms. Serpa moves. Mr. Smadbeck seconds.

Mr. Smadbeck reads correspondence. There is a letter about a hole in the bike path, but it seems to be in West Tisbury. The letter is forwarded to Stuart Fuller, Highway Superintendent.

The following seasonal licenses were then approved: Boathouse Bar dba Atlantic-Common Victualer(all alcoholic), Common Victualler, & weekday entertainment; Boathouse Club(Main St.) dba The Boathouse – Club License(All alcohol) & Weekday Entertainment.; Boathouse Club (Field House Rd)- Club License(all alcohol) & Weekday Entertainment License; Chesca's – Innholders(all alcohol) & Common Victualer; Vineyard Golf Club- Club License(all alcohol), Common Victualler, Weekday Entertainment, & Sunday Entertainment; Lure- Common Victualer(all alcohol), Common Victualler, Weekday Entertainment, & Sunday Entertainment; Seafood Shanty- Common Victualer(all alcohol), Sunday Entertainment, Weekday Entertainment, & Common Victualler; Town Provisions-Retail Package Goods(all alcohol)& Sunday sales.

A one day liquor license was approved for the Edgartown Fire Department for their monthly dinner on April 2, 2009.

A yard sale permit was approved for Katherine Vincent at 261 Upper Main St on April 18,2009 from 9am-7pm. Raindate April 25, 2009.

Ms. Serpa moved and Mr. Smadbeck seconded. All unanimous.

There was a letter from Comcast concerning renewal in 2011. Ms. Dolby said there would be a meeting on May 13th or 14th. Edgartown's priorities at this time is service to Chappaquiddick and seasonal Establishment service. The Board has received over 200 emails from concerned citizens of Chappaquiddick voicing their need for service.

There has been a lot of correspondence about "Bend in the Road Beach" concerning the quality of the new dredged sand and the new beach grass area shrinking the bathing area. Ms. Dolby said that there is discussion on going. The temporary fix will be to remove some of the beach grass and spread out the sand in hopes that it will bleach out a little. This is not the end. Eel Pond is next to be dredged and the sand will go to "Bend in the Road" beach. It may be a better sand.

Ms. Serpa stated that there needs to be better oversight in the future on any new projects. There should be more communications between the Dredge, Conservation & Board of Selectmen. This beach is for children and swim lessons.

Ms. Dolby stated that Jane Varkonda the Conservation agent had written a letter about the quality of the sand months ago. Nothing happened. There will be a meeting soon of the Park Dept., Dredge, Conservation, & Selectmen about the construction of boardwalks and fencing. All involved are trying to deal with the situation and have more communication.

At 4:45pm Ms. Serpa called a recess of 15 minutes until the Housing Lottery at 5:00 pm

At 5:00 pm Mr. Smadbeck opened the Affordable House Lottery for the Dias House.

There were 4 families in the raffle they were; Tom & Amy Sullivan w/ two tickets (work & live in Edgartown), Sara Rominers & Mike Bergeron w/ 1 ticket (work), Jason Chatman & Theresa Tuturice w/ 1 ticket (work), and Carol & Esteban Aranzabe w/ 1 ticket (work). The last two were not present at the lottery.

David Vigneault from DCRH spoke briefly that this was the 15th affordable home buying opportunity in Edgartown. The next one would be the Habitat for Humanity House on April 11th. This was a collaboration of the DCRH, EAH, and the EAHF.

Alan Gowell acknowledged the family of John Dias. Mr. Dias built this house himself before his unexpected death and it is a beautiful house.

The Tickets were then handed out accordingly and put into the box by the applicants or their representatives. Ms. Serpa shook the box and Mr. Smadbeck drew the names. The names were pulled as follows: 1) Carol & Esteban Aranzabe, 2) Sara Rominers & Mike Bergeron, 3) Tom & Amy Sullivan, 4) Jason Chatman & Theresa Tuturice. If the first family doesn't qualify or something happens the next family will be eligible and so on.

Ms. Serpa moves to adjourn at 5:07 pm. Mr. Smadbeck seconds. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

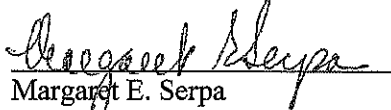
Approved:



Arthur Smadbeck, Chairman

Kristy Rose
Temporary Assistant

Michael J. Donaroma



Margaret E. Serpa
Board of Selectmen