

Selectmen's Meeting

April 7, 2008

4:00 P.M.

A meeting of the Board was held on the above date in a temporary meeting room on the second floor. Members present were Margaret E. Serpa, Chairman, Selectman Arthur Smadbeck and Selectman Michael J. Donaroma. Also present was Town Administrator Pamela M. Dolby.

Alan Gowell, member of the Board of Assessors, was present regarding the scheduled tax rate hearing at 4:00 p.m. Mr. Gowell said the Board of Assessors would like to continue the hearing to Monday, April 14, since they weren't quite ready this day. It was moved and voted to continue the tax rate hearing to next week at 4:30 p.m. It was noted that Selectman Donaroma will not be present next week.

The Board voted the following:

To approve the minutes of March 31, 2008 as written and dispense with the reading of same.

To grant a Steamship Authority voucher to the Library.

To approve a Fishermen's Depot Lot renewal by Tracy Sharples.

To approve (2-0, Chairman Serpa abstaining) the final agreement between the Town and Police Department AFL-CIO, extending from July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2011.

To grant Common Victualler's Licenses to the Right Fork Diner, Sharky's Cantina, Atria, l'etoile, Among the Flowers and the Seafood Shanty.

To grant an Entertainment License to Sharky's Cantina, which plans to provide television, Mexican music via commercial satellite radio, acoustic acts, bands and DJs, with live acts only in the main dining room with all windows and doors closed. The applicant, Co-owner Jonathan Blau, said he had spoken to the Chief of Police and will work with the Police Department.

To grant a request to occupy a portion of the sidewalk by J. Michael Creech d/b/a Island Professional Remodeling, at Main St. and North Water St., the Bank of Martha's Vineyard, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., April 18 to May 14, 2008 with the conditions that no paint, paint chips, liquids of any kind, or cleaning materials are allowed to be washed/rinsed/dumped onto the street or into the Harbor.

To grant a like request to occupy a portion of the sidewalk from the Sistina Gallery, North Water and Winter Streets, same hours, April 8 to May 14, 2008 with the same conditions added as for the Bank of Martha's Vineyard regarding no paint, paint chips, etc. being dumped in the street or into the Harbor.

Barbara Prada, Officer of Animal Control, was present to give her quarterly report. She reported that she had herded some sheep at 3:00 a.m. one morning. The Board moved to accept her report and thanked her for it.

Gerry Conover was present to give the Board an update on plans for the Navigator Restaurant. He showed the Board a plan of the entire area, including private and public property, and also photographs taken of various locations. He said the outside of the building will be completed in a few weeks. He described planned plantings, a brick sidewalk 12' wide, 4 shade trees, London plane trees, approved by both the Beautification Committee and Stuart Fuller, Tree Warden, and three new decorative standing lanterns, matching those on Main Street and elsewhere, to replace the existing, cheaper versions. He also pointed out safety devices, such as a planter where the walkway approaches the harbor. He said the Navigator is paying for it all.

Selectman Smadbeck said this is a nice gift to the Town, a visual and technical improvement, and Chairman Serpa agreed. Mr. Fuller also commented favorably on the plans. Chairman Serpa also referred to the Navigator having insurance and that there be no Town liability, which he can work out with the Town Administrator. Mr. Conover closed by saying that their attorney, Sean Murphy, would come before the Board before long to talk about the project.

Chris Scott, Director of the Martha's Vineyard Preservation Trust, was present to talk

about a possible use of the Old School House. James Cisek of the Old School House Use Committee was also present. Mr. Scott spoke of the Old School House as a challenge, noting that the new school abuts it on three sides, raising issues of parking and loading. He said he loves the old building but it needs a complete rehabilitation. He spoke of the various scenarios that have been proposed for it, including housing, commercial or retail uses. He said the Board wouldn't need the Preservation Trust for any of those. Then he said that he had an idea that it could be a good home for the Martha's Vineyard Historical Society and Museum, which plans to leave Edgartown because of lack of room at its present site on School Street, as well as a parking problem for visitors, and poor location. He said the Historical Society has purchased property in West Tisbury.

Mr. Scott thought the Old School House should be considered as a new home for the Historical Society and Museum. He said the Old School House has 19,000 sq. ft. and they are planning on having 20,000 sq. ft. He thought the Edgartown location would be a good one for them and there would be a cultural and educational compatibility between the school and the Society. He said the cafeteria-gym area could become a lecture hall. Even parking would not be too much of a problem. In summer, when school is not in session, there would be plenty of parking available, and that would be when they would have the most visitors. He said he had made some discrete inquiries about the Museum plans. Taking over the Old Brick School House would not necessitate the expenditure of some \$15 million to \$20 million they envisioned for the West Tisbury plan. Mr. Cisek said the Old School House Use Committee favored the idea. Mr. Scott, although cognizant that the Town might wish to issue a request for proposals regarding any private use of the property, nevertheless urged the Board to make an overture to the Museum, both because of advantages to the Town and the economic effect for the Museum and the Town.

Selectman Smadbeck made a motion to enthusiastically invite the Museum to take over the building and create a new Historical Society and Museum there, working with Mr. Scott and Mr. Cisek. Selectman Donaroma said he thought it a great idea. Chairman Serpa said we definitely want to find a use for the building and suggested Mr. Scott work with the Old School House Use Committee, and asked if he had a time frame in mind. Mr. Scott said this represents a big change and offers the advantages of cost and time frame. He believes the Museum would consider the offer and urged direct communication between the Board of Selectmen and the Museum's Board. The Board then voted in favor of Selectman Smadbeck motion, as above.

The Board received a request from Christian Thornton, manager, and Greer Boyle Thornton of Atria for a Board vote and the signature of the Chairman to change the corporate name from Moshup LLC d/b/a Atria to Atria MV Corporation d/b/a Atria. Atria has a Seasonal All Alcoholic Beverages Restaurant License. The Board so voted and the Chairman signed the document.

The Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission requires each year, under MGL Ch. 138, s17 as amended, an estimate of temporary increased resident population in Edgartown for the purpose of number of liquor licenses that can be added during the summer. The Board sent the ABCC an estimate of 10,500 as of July 10, 2008, signed by all Board members.

Town Administrator Dolby distributed copies of e-mails she had received regarding proposed Chappy Ferry rates. She will continue to copy them as they come in and put them in the Selectmen's slots in the office.


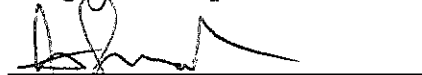
There being no further business, the meeting ended at 4:45 p.m.

APPROVED:

Respectfully submitted,



Hope Waingrow, secretary


Margaret E. Serpa, Chairman
Arthur Smadbeck

Michael J. Donaroma

BOARD OF SELECTMEN