

**Town of Edgartown
Selectboard
November 6, 2023
4:00 pm**

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

At 4:00 pm Mr. Smadbeck opened the meeting and the first item on the agenda which was a joint item with the Planning Board to vote in a new member to fill the empty position left by the death of longtime member Fred Mascolo. This appointment would be until a new member could be elected in the annual town elections in April of 2024. Mr. Smadbeck read the public notice for members and stated they have three letters of interest. He recognized Ms. Lucy Morrison, Chair of the Planning Board. Also present was Planning Board Alternate James Cisek.

Ms. Morrison stated that the Planning Board misunderstood and had voted to recommend moving the alternate James Cisek into the open position.

Mr. Smadbeck replied that was not how it worked. Mr. Cisek had not put in a letter of interest. A letter should have been submitted by the deadline.

Mr. Hagerty responded that the process was laid out in MGL CH41 Section 81.

Mr. Smadbeck noted that this was supposed to be a joint vote and a quorum of the Planning Board was not present. He suggested continuing the item until the Planning Board could be present to act.

The item was continued to 11/13/23.

Mr. Smadbeck then moved on to the next item which was a public hearing on the requests of some seasonal liquor license holders to extend their licenses through dates in December. Present who spoke were Jay Kuss, Manager of Alchemy; Christopher Stam, Owner of Alchemy; and Pam Dolby, concerned citizen. A handful of license holders and concerned citizens were also present, but did not speak.

Mr. Kuss stated that he has several year-round employees, business is falling back into pre-covid conditions in the off season where there are a couple of somewhat busy days on the weekends, but it is very slow the rest of the week. Christmas time is very important to sustain them through winter. He supported the liquor store requests to extend sales but wanted the Board to seriously consider the restaurant requests and how it will effect the year round licenses.

Mr. Stam agreed. They have many year-round employees. This will effect their income.

Ms. Dolby stated that there are more people on the island than there have ever been. There are not enough restaurants to serve them during Christmas in Edgartown. She encouraged the Board to allow the extensions.

Mr. Smadbeck asked Ms. Julia Tarka, who is the President of the Board of Trade as well as a seasonal package store license holder, if the Board of Trade had any thoughts on the issue.

Ms. Tarka stated that she was present as a license holder and could not speak for the Board since it hadn't been discussed and they had not formed a formal stance on the issue.

Mr. Smadbeck stated that there were four annual licenses available. The Charlotte Inn wants to change to annual. They are one of the requestors. The requests were made up of one inn, one restaurant and two package stores. He suggested to the Board to allow the four requested extensions for this year and to arrange some meetings with License Holders and the Board of Trade over the winter to come up with a consensus moving forward.

Mr. Donaroma moved to approve the following seasonal liquor license extensions: The Terrace at the Charlotte Inn to 12/31; Wharf Wine & Spirits to 12/31; Atria to 12/31 and Katama General to 12/9. Ms. Serpa seconded. Unanimous.

Mr. Smadbeck then opened the next item on the agenda which was a request from the owners of 71 S. Water Street to reduce the public parking space opposite their driveway. Present were owners Denise Slaughter and Diane Zvara. Their neighbors Steve Berger and Lucy Dahl were also present.

Ms. Slaughter and Ms. Zvara spoke that it was difficult to maneuver their vehicles out of their driveway due to the public parking area across the street. They stated it was longer than 2 car lengths but shorter than three car lengths and people always tried to squeeze three cars in. This results in cars going over the line and obstructing their ability to exit their driveway. The space is now 51'. They are asking to reduce it to 43'.

Ms. Dahl and Mr. Berger both supported the idea. They have witnessed the difficulty the residents at 71 S. Water Street have in getting out of their driveway.

Mr. Smadbeck replied that it sounded like a parking enforcement issue. The Board will have to seek the thoughts of the Police Chief and Highway Superintendent to see what they recommend for action. He thanked them for coming in.

The Board then approved the following items:

A new Ambulance Billing and Collection Policy

A Donation of \$150 to the Animal Control Department.

A Harbormaster Commitment

The Minutes of October 30, 2023.

The Weekly Warrants.

At 4:45 pm Ms. Serpa moved to adjourn. Mr. Donaroma seconded. The Board did a rollcall vote and all voted Aye. Unanimous

Approved:

Arthur Smadbeck, Chairman

Michael J. Donaroma

Margaret E. Serpa
Selectboard

Respectfully submitted,

Kristy Rose
Administrative Assistant

Documents included in meeting: Agenda, Applications, Permits, Minutes and Warrants