

Selectmen's Meeting
July 11, 2016
4:00 pm

A meeting of the Board was held on the above date in the meeting room of Town Hall. Members present were: Margaret E. Serpa, Chairman; Arthur Smadbeck and Michael J. Donaroma. Also present was Town Administrator Pamela Dolby.

At 4:00pm Ms. Serpa opened the meeting and the first item on the agenda which was the continuation of the Public Shade Tree Hearing for the Santangelos at 105 Main St. Present was Mr. Dan Santangelo. Stuart Fuller, Tree Warden could not attend due to previous commitments.

Mr. Santangelo stated that the tree issues started in 2012 where limbs would fall off the tree in a storm. His neighbor wants him to remove the tree. He thinks the tree is in serious decline due to age and proximity to the street. He also heard that the Town installed a pipe down the road near the tree and thinks that was a contributor. He is concerned about the tree causing a hazard and the egress to his garage.

Ms. Serpa then read a letter from the Historic District Committee stating that they would like any replacement to be placed in the same location to break up and soften the appearance of the new garage. The letter also stated that they had concerns for the tree from the inception of the plan to build the garage and voiced them to the Tree Warden who had then sent a letter to Mr. Santangelo to protect the tree during construction. The HDC feels the instructions were not followed.

Mr. Santangelo responded that all the Tree Warden told him to do was water the tree. He does not think his building effected the tree because it is "25 feet away" from the new garage. He thinks the pipe was the culprit. He thinks the HDC is being "unreasonable and retaliatory" wanting the replacement in the same location which is right in front of his garage. He then moved on to let the Board know how he feels about the HDC in a ten minute rant. He ended by saying he was so disgusted that he would rather leave the tree there.

Susan Catling, Chair of the Historic District stated that the HDC has no control over curb cuts or trees. The curb cut that is there is roughly 46'. She is not an arborist, but that the tree looks like it is bouncing back after it's recent pruning. There is a lot of greenery and it doesn't look like it is impinging on anyone else's property. She stated that the HDC's point was that a tree in that location would beautify the area and help soften the almost 46' expanse.

Mr. Mort Fearey, a resident of Plantingfield Way, urged the Board to put something back where the current tree is to shield the cars and large parking lot that is developing there.

Ms. Georgiana Greenough, Planning Board Assistant, then discussed the curb cut and how it has expanded from 10'-12' to the now expansive area. She went over how the Planning Board is in the process of trying to get the curb cut smaller with very little progress. It is in the works.

Ms. Bricque Garber, HDC Assistant just wanted to clarify that when the garage and poolhouse were designed the tree was in the plans. There were concerns about the tree at that time. Mr. Santangelo had assured the Commission that it would not affect his parking and the building would not affect the tree. They are now using a different parking scheme than approved. The tree was there before the garage was built.

Ms. Greenough showed a plan that was submitted to the building department that showed a 10'-12' curb cut which is not what is there.

Mr. Donaroma stated that at the last meeting Mrs. Santangelo had agreed to come back with a plan for replacement. Did he have a plan?

Mr. Santangelo then went on a rant about curb cuts.

Mr. Donaroma again asked for a plan.

Mr. Santangelo stated that there was a drain at the edge of the driveway. He offered a sugar maple in front of it placed back but would have to be off the side of the road, but there are already trees there. He then started ranting about curb cuts again.

Ms. Serpa and Mr. Donaroma circled back to the plan. Mr. Donaroma asked about understory planting to mitigate the view of the garage.

Mr. Santangelo didn't have a drawn plan. He tried to describe what he wanted to do which was unclear but seemed to keep his large curb cut and plant a tree on either end.

Mr. Donaroma stated that this wasn't a very good plan.

Ms. Serpa stated that what they were going to address is the tree.

Mr. Donaroma stated that he doesn't see any dangerous limbs on this tree. It seems to be suckering back really nicely. Sometimes when you give a tree a good prune it bounces back. With lack of a good plan that addresses everyone's concerns, he would have a hard time approving the plan.

Ms. Serpa stated that Mr. Donaroma was correct that there is a beautiful top on it at this time. They have denied applications before where the tree was supposedly dead and gave an example of the tree next to town hall which is very much still alive.

Mr. Smadbeck stated that lacking a good plan and agreement between everyone and the reemergence of the health of the tree. He agreed with the other Board Members.

Mr. Donaroma moved to deny the request to remove the tree. Mr. Smadbeck seconded. Unanimous.

Ms. Serpa then moved on to the next item on the agenda which was the application of Becca Hamilton LeMarche for a Commercial Marine License for day sails and sailing instruction. Ms. LeMarche was not present due to illness. However, there was a glowing letter of recommendation from the Marine Advisory Committee.

Mr. Smadbeck moved to approve. Mr. Donaroma seconded. Unanimous.

Ms. Serpa then recognized Mr. Paul Mohair from the Council on Aging.

Mr. Mohair stated that he would like the Board to accept a grant of \$4500 from the Friends of the COA to cover an outreach worker from July 1st to September 16th for 15 hours per week.

Mr. Donaroma moved to accept. Mr. Smadbeck seconded. Unanimous.

Ms. Serpa then addressed a letter received from the Fire Department that they no longer need their dive bus. The Oak Bluffs dive team has expressed interest. The Fire Department would like to give the bus to Oak Bluffs.

Mr. Smadbeck asked why they didn't need it anymore.

Ms. Dolby stated that she believed the equipment just moved to a new vehicle.

Mr. Smadbeck moved to approve. Mr. Donaroma seconded. Unanimous.

The Board approved the following items:

The Board approved the 20 Miler race on February 18, 2017.

Transfer from the Reserve Fund of \$380 to Inspector Salaries, Transfer from Reserve Fund to Medicare of \$4,000.

To accept Chapter 467 of the Acts of 2008 MGL 32 to change EMTs to Group 4 in Dukes County Retirement System.

The Board approved the application for the 6th Street Lots.

The Auditor Services Contract.

A Travel Voucher for the Water Department.

A large group of Harbor Warrants.

Signed a violation letter for Behind the Bookstore.

Approved Meals in the Meadow One Day Liquor License and Entertainment License for July 16th.

Transient Vendor License for Penumbra Photographs on N. Summer St.

Commercial Marine License renewals for: Vineyard Yachting, Aquamarine Dockbuilders, Edwin B. Gentle III, Edwin B. Gentle Jr., Harborside Inn, MV Shipyard, Island Classic Charters, Katama Bay Sailing Tours, Edmund Smith, Thomas Rapone, Ed Jerome, MV Museum, Stephen Fiedrich, Rob Morrison and Russ Lawrence.

For the 8th Grade Class to sell garden tour tickets in the Mini Park.

For the Harbor View to park a Tesla in front of the Hotel for an event for three days.

Ms. Dolby then gave her update. Verizon is back in for providing cell service at the Katama Farm Silo. She will give updates as they come along. She thanked Steve Handy, Donny Benefit, and Charlie Blair for all their help with the dead whale out on South Beach. To which the Board voted to send letters of appreciation. She announced that Jennifer Rose would be selling shellfish licenses for the summer at the front desk in Town Hall.

Ms. Dolby then asked the Board to accept an anonymous donation to the Library in the amount of \$574,000. Mr. Smadbeck moved to accept. Mr. Donaroma seconded. Unanimous.

The Board then voted to accept the sum of \$8,000 to continue the gardening program at the Edgartown School. Mr. Smadbeck moved to accept. Mr. Donaroma seconded. Unanimous.

At 4:38PM Mr. Smadbeck moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Donaroma seconded. Unanimous.

Approved:

Margaret E. Serpa, Chairman

Arthur Smadbeck

Michael J. Donaroma
Board of Selectmen

Respectfully submitted,

Kristy Rose
Assistant