

Tisbury School Committee
8:30AM, Tuesday, May 7, 2019
Tisbury School Conference Room

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TSC Members Present: Chair Amy Houghton, Janet Packer, Michael Watts,
Staff: John Custer – Principal, Sean Mulvey – Assoc. Principal;
Matt D’Andrea – Superintendent, Richie Smith – Asst. Supt.
Amy Tierney – Business Administrator
Kate Harding, Alyson Wiesner, Sean deBettencourt,
Others: Jeff Kristal, Melinda Loberg – Selectman, Jynell Kristal – FinCom
Rachel Orr,
Marni Lipke – Recorder

* Late Arrivals or early departures.

The Tisbury School Committee (TSC) meeting was called to order at 8:34AM.

I. Introduce New School Committee Member

Mr. Michael Watts was welcomed to the TSC and everyone introduced themselves.

II. Approval of Minutes

• **ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. JANET PACKER AND SECONDED BY MS. AMY HOUGHTON THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 3, 2019 AND APRIL 9, 2019 MEETINGS WERE APPROVED; 2 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSTENTION—MR. WATTS** as not a member at that time.

III. Superintendent’s Report

A. All-Island School Committee (AISC) (See below: Meetings/Events.)

The meeting would include:

- Special Education consultant Mr. Jim Shillinglaw,
 - union negotiation information and votes, and
 - State Legislative team Representative Dylan Fernandes and Senator Julian Cyr.
- The TSC emphasized the importance of Town representation at the Martha's Vineyard High School Regional Agreement Subcommittee meetings (see below: Meetings/Events).

IV. Financial Report

A. Fund Balances (See documents on file.)

- The Manter Fund was expected to fund about \$15,000 in student field trip scholarships and requests by the end of the Fiscal Year, which would leave only ~ \$9,000 to be rolled over into Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20). School Advisory Council (SAC) member Jim Norton watched the Fund closely, and the Administration and TSC expressed their appreciation of this resource. The Manter Fund mission (for Tisbury student needs, including one pair of shoes) and history (including the sale to the Martha's Vineyard Landbank) were reviewed for Mr. Watts.

- There was a growing Island-wide consensus that the Seventh Grade ski trips were becoming increasingly difficult to manage and finance.
- Town Accountant Suzanne Kennedy closed out Fund 501 Security Plan article in July 2018 despite repeated contact from Prin. Custer that the residual would be used to pay for security kits (see Minutes: 5/9/17 p.3 #C & 1/9/18 p.2 #IV A). The TSC asked the Selectmen to contact Ms. Kennedy on the matter.

B. Donation Receipt Request (See documents on file.)

In order to accept the check a separate fund would have to be set up. The TSC expressed their appreciation, not only of the contribution but of the symbolic gesture.

- **ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. PACKER AND SECONDED BY MR. WATTS THE TISBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY (3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS) AND GRATEFULLY**
- **ESTABLISHED A SCHOOL REPAIR FUND; AND**
- **ACCEPTED \$100 ANONYMOUS DONATION IN MEMORY OF TED FRANK;**

V. Facilities Report (See documents on file.)

A. Professional Services for Building Project—Next Steps

Hoping the Martha's Vineyard Times article incorrectly reported Selectmen/TSC friction there were continued meetings and collaboration between the two Boards on a renovation/restoration/addition project for the School. Selectmen Jim Rogers and TSC Chair Amy Houghton met repeatedly before and after Annual Town Meeting.

1. Building Committee (see 4/3/19 Minutes p.2.)

The Selectmen hoped to keep the Committee at nine members, however they requested that this not include:

- either Supt. Matt D'Andrea or Principal John Custer;
- nor elected officials such as the Planning Board, etc.

The TSC were very uncomfortable with a Building Committee that did not include Prin. Custer, as the School Education Plan expert but agreed to Supt. D'Andrea and other elected officials as resources to be consulted as the project progressed. The goal was to move the project forward and appoint the Committee at the May 21st Selectmen's meeting, with tentative membership proposed as follows:

- Selectmen Jim Rogers,
- TSC member Mr. Michael Watts,
- Prin. John Custer,
- Tisbury Historic Commission and Restoration contractor Mr. Harold Chapdelaine,
- architect Ms. Reade Milne,
- one teacher each from grades kindergarten (K) through four, and grades five through eight;
- a financial consultant possibly a Finance Committee appointment (not a member);
- two other suggested candidates, Mr. Peter Gerhardt of the Martha's Vineyard Museum project and Mr. Lynn Galente an engineer with municipal project experience.
- At the end of the meeting, there was a discussion on Selectmen Jim Roger's request to change the TSC meeting time to facilitate his attendance. Unfortunately it was difficult for TSC members to find another time that fit their tight schedules. Previous attempts at other times had resulted in sparse attendance.

- As the Selectmen's agenda was very full for May 21st they suggested the TSC could forego the joint meeting, however the TSC strongly emphasized the need to present a united front.
- Town Administrator Jay Grande was currently on vacation.

B. Summer Maintenance

Tisbury Facilities Director Kirk Mattell was overseeing the summer maintenance work on the front steps, classroom floors, and gym roof/walls.

- Prin. Custer announced that he would ask that all classes be moved out of the White House by June 1st, limiting that space to office, meeting room and storage use. Although it would be educationally difficult to fit classes into the main building space, it was a necessary safety and security step for students and staff. Spaces would be re-outfitted accordingly. The TSC readily endorsed the action, noting the difficulties of students isolated and "marked" by White House classes as well as the security issues of continually leaving the building.

C. Department of Public Health (DPH) Visit (See Minutes: 4/9/19 p.2 #III A.)

DPH Inspector Michael Feeney would send a report within the month of his walk through the school with Mr. Mattell and Prin. Custer. He recommended a contractor be hired to deal with hazardous materials (hazmat) such as lead paint and asbestos, which were identified but not tested for in the Turowski Two Feasibility Study (see below: Actions). Mr. Feeney offered to speak to the community at a forum.

- The School did not expect to pass its part of a Town-wide Disability Access survey.

VIII. Principal's Report

A. Personnel/Staffing Update (See documents on file.)

- Prin. Custer was proud to announce new hires.
- Ms. Jessica Sanseverino as K thru eight vocal music teacher was endorsed by departing teacher Ms. Emily Anderson. Ms. Sanseverino had attended the last concert and contacted administration on Responsive Classroom trainings.
- Mr. Greg Pattison as Industrial Arts was highly regarded in previous service to both the Oak Bluffs and Edgartown Schools.
- Assistant Principal and health teacher interviews for were in progress or scheduled.
- **ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. PACKER AND SECONDED BY MR. WATTS THE TISBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY (3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS) ACKNOWLEDGED WITH APPRECIATION FOR THEIR SERVICE:**
- **THE RESIGNATION OF INSTRUMENTAL DIRECTOR KELLY SULLIVAN AT THE END OF THE 2018-19 SCHOOL YEAR; AND**
- **THE RETIREMENT OF CUSTODIAN MIKE COHEN AS OF JULY 26, 2019.**

B. School Events (See documents on file.)

MCAS testing was in progress.

- The traditional March to the Sea would step off at 12:30pm, Friday, May 24th.
- Prin. Custer and Assoc. Prin. Sean Mulvey would be grilling food for Wellness Day, May 30th. The TSC saluted Wellness Day founder/organizer Ms. Catherine Coogan and attested to its lasting influence on their children.

- The next TSC meeting would deal with end of year transfers and financial matters.
- Graduation would start promptly at 5:00PM, June 12th and the last day of school was June 18th.

Adjournment

- **ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. PACKER AND SECONDED BY MR. WATTS THE TISBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING UNANIMOUSLY ADJOURNED AT 9:26AM.**

Appendix A: Meetings/Events:

- TSC/BOS – 4:00pm, Tuesday, May 21, 2019 at the KCT
- MVRHSC Regional Agreement Subc.- 12:00n, Monday, May 22, 2019 TBD
- MVRHSC - 5:00pm, Monday, June 3 & 24, 2019 at the MVRHS LCR
- TSC – 8:30am, Tuesday, June 4, 2019 at the Tisbury School
- AISC - 4:00pm, Thursday, June 6, 2019 at the MVRHS LCR
- Graduation - 5:00pm, Wednesday, June 12, 2018 at the Tisbury School Gym

Appendix B: Actions

- Prin. Custer/Mr. Mattell – contact hazmat contractors Green Environmental, or MVCS recommendation.
- Check hazmat information gathered by DPW.

Appendix C: Documents on File:

- Agenda 5/7/19
- Tisbury School Fund Balances Fiscal Year 2018-2019 5/6/19
- Cover note & money order 3/1/19
- Tisbury School Events
- Tiger Tales May 2019 (5 p.)
- “Meeting” a deliberation by a public body...excerpt
- Sullivan letter of resignation 4/29/19
- Cohen retirement letter 5/6/19

Minutes respectfully submitted by Office On Call/Marni Lipke.

Marni Lipke – Recorder

Date

Amy Houghton – TSC Chair

Date

Minutes approved 6/4/19