

**Tisbury Finance & Advisory Committee
at the Emergency Services Building
6:30PM, Wednesday December 20, 2017**

Present: Chair – Jeff Kristal, Pamela Brock, Paul Cefola, Nancy Gilfoy,
Jynell Kristal, Tom Keller, Mary Ellen Larsen, Lesley Segal,
Sarah York*,

Town: Treasurer Jonathon Snyder,

Others: MVCS – Julie Faye, HAMV – Paddi Moore, ACE MV – Sam Hart,
Recorder - Marni Lipke*

* Late arrivals or early departures

- **Call to Order**

The Tisbury Finance and Advisory Committee (FinCom) was called to order at 6:30PM. *(Recorder's Note: Discussions are summarized and grouped for clarity and brevity.)*

• Budget Reviews Fiscal Year 2019 (FY19)

Martha's Vineyard Community Service (MVCS) &

Healthy Aging Martha's Vineyard (HAMV) - Julie Fay

(See documents on file & below: Actions.)

Starting in 2010, 10,000 people turned 65 every day, and on a local scale, the Island senior population grew from one in six to one in three. There were three components to the request for funds.

- FirstStop Website - Originally focused on elder care (see 9/21/16 Minutes p.1) the website integrated well into the CORE program (see below) and has since been merged with MVCS and expanded to a resource for all social services on the Island (food distribution, news services, senior services, family planning, etc.). The merger eliminated duplicate staffing in Information Technology (IT) and updating for a \$40,000 reduction (total request \$47,500).

- Counseling Outreach and Referral for the Elderly (CORE) Program – This program was initiated with a Martha's Vineyard Hospital (MVH) grant (required with new facility construction) and was now partially funded by towns and partially by the MVH (see 3/15/17 Minutes p.2-3). MVCS sent skilled clinicians to the homes of elders self-isolated by health, mental health, dementia, etc. in a pro-active approach that dramatically decreased emergency calls and hospitalizations. The goal was to give support to homebound seniors (e.g. monitoring meds or arranging help with chores) and/or to re-integrate people back into the community getting them to clinics or the MVCS. MVCS was requesting \$80,000.

- HAMV – was an overarching planning arm for Island elder care (see Minutes: 2/17/16 p.3, AIFC 9/28/17 p.2). Running surveys and initiating programs funneled to other organizations and bringing the Island resources together:

- the FirstStop move to MVCS;

- advocating that all healthcare providers to receive geriatric training;

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- Martha's Vineyard Commission (MVC) partnering for data analysis by Town;
- legwork, advocacy and application for grant funding for seniors.
- The HAMV Board judged it was no longer sustainable as 100% volunteer and requested \$71,100 for a staff position (40 hr./wk.) further funded by \$10,000 from the MVC.

The FinCom discussed a number of issues (see also below: Actions).

- MVCS acted as the fiscal agent for all three requests, which would be assessed by County formula. Next year would be combined into a single request in the hopes of cutting paperwork.
- FirstStop Administrative allocation included some MVCS oversight, and occupancy was delineated for State reporting purposes. Most work was in content managers and IT.
- FirstStop calls decreased as the website became more navigable, so the MVCS under-billed the Town by \$17,000 in FY18. Currently calls were usually referred to CORE clinicians.
- CORE could not access clients medical records on-line (such as the Partners Network) due Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) privacy laws.
- Medicare did not fund home visits, and the small Vineyard population made it prohibitively expensive to become Medicare qualified (which was designed for larger municipalities). Third party or private payments were minimal.
- The FinCom suggested closer collaboration with the Councils On Aging (COAs) and the Center for Living (CFL or C4L). CFL provided Alzheimer's day programs including the Memory Café. Each of the programs (HAMV, MVCS, CFL and COA) worked collaboratively on different areas of senior support. Jeff Kristal suggested the Tisbury Senior Center was underused. The FinCom was interested in:
 - the effectiveness of the CFL programs;
 - the role of the COA computer kiosks;
 - regionalization of COA services;
 - farming out the HAMV position to a student intern;
 - the total amount spent on senior services on Martha's Vineyard.

The FinCom tabled approval pending larger discussions on issues of duplication of services and Town funding for non-profits (e.g. whether to send budget guideline letters—see documents on file).

- MARY ELLEN LARSEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE FISCAL YEAR 2018 BUDGET REQUESTS BY HEALTHY AGING MARTHA'S VINEYARD, FIRSTSTOP WEBSITE, AND COUNSELING OUTREACH AND REFERRAL FOR THE ELDERLY; PAM BROCK SECONDED; MOTION WITHDRAWN after a discussion on protocol and approval deadlines.

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Sam Hart – Adult Community Education-Martha's Vineyard (ACE MV)

This was the third of the three-year seed funding and fiscal agent agreement with the All Island School Committee (AISC) (see 3/15/17 Minutes p.4 & 2/7/17 AIFC Notes). Tisbury's FY19 share (\$13,670) was \$1,300 less due to a population shift. ACE MV expansion into trade/career education continued:

- building and landscaping—green building, heavy equipment operation, etc;
- Continuing Education Units (CEUs), Special Education certifications, Masters in Education (M.Ed) with Fitchburg (the first class just graduated);
- undergraduate healthcare professional credits, nursing, adjuncts and Certified Nursing Assistants (CNAs);
- commercial driving license,
- computer bookkeeping, QuickBooks, Excel, small business management, financial planning.
- The FinCom discussed the move towards self-sufficiency. Two years of Town support helped initiate the program.
- Courses were not instigated without a viable cohort; for example the M.Ed had 48 sign ups of which 20 were accepted/joined, and it would not be offered again for awhile, although other education courses were available (see above). The commercial drivers license class was usually full.
- Courses were well chosen and tuition covered teaching and supply costs.
- ACE MV was expanding grant funding and attracting significant donors. However most education grants were youth oriented disqualifying ACE MV—average student age late 30s.
- If Town support were to continue, the AISC fiscal agent agreement would have to be renegotiated.
- Courses were selected in keeping with the 2014 University of Massachusetts Medication School Survey and in partnership with other Island organizations, Martha's Vineyard Regional High School (MVRHS), MVH, Rotary Club, etc. However, offerings were limited by the availability of teaching staff.
- The FinCom noted that this was the only organization that did not specify where Town funding was spent (i.e. on salaries, administrative costs, etc.), so that in case of over budgeting there was no return to the Towns. Mr. Hart explained that in general all Town support went to line 6010 Personnel (or administration), but that the program operated on a very slim profit margin and often needed the small leeway to cover summer months.
- Tisbury FinCom was the first to interview Sam Hart and he looked forward to the AIFC meeting (see below: Actions). In general the Up Island towns were supportive and the three down Island towns had reservations. He would keep the TFC informed of all developments.

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• **Revenue Enhancement Ideas**

Warrant Articles Needed?

- The TFC reviewed their practice of limiting taxes, including presentations of the budget, the Voter Guide, the current hiring freeze (and short staffed departments—Police 3, DPW 6), re-examining liability insurance costs, and the impact of FinCom advice on Town Meeting voters. There was a discussion on Union negotiation issues:
 - Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) as starting points;
 - allowing issues to go to grievance;
 - need to pay at market rate to attract and keep qualified staff;
 - police overtime and understaffing,
 - less need for police Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) training/pay scale.
- Members proposed the following ideas for revenue enhancement.
 - Ask the community for ideas.
 - Energy generation revenue from solar arrays (Tisbury was overpaid due to a miscalculation), including a warrant for Emergency Services Bldg. solar, and potential solar for the new school.
 - Naming rights to attract private sponsorship would be a controversial move.
 - Sharing services and collaborative government with other Island towns could significantly reduce costs.
 - Increase grant funding.
 - Loosen zoning to encourage a better real estate market, including possibly another moratorium on permits for undersized lots.
 - Parking could be a substantial source of income including: meters at the Park & Ride and/or on Main Street, parking charges for overnight parking at the School, and Jeff Kristal again proposed the sale of the old Fire Station lot.
 - Increase charges for the Spring Building rentals.
 - Marijuana taxes could also bring in revenue, pending Town decisions on zoning designations.
 - All Payments In Lieu of Taxes (PILOTs) should be reviewed to insure compliance and appropriate level of payment.
 - Offer town wifi for the Harbor and charge for advertising revenue.
 - Computerize Town permitting (lodging, businesses, etc.) to reduce inadvertent delinquency.
- The FinCom asked about the FY18 \$675,000 in new Town Hall capital expenses.

• **High School Budget Discussion** – Tabled

• **Tisbury School Building Letter for Town Meeting**

The TFC agreed that reporting a simple vote count was not sufficient for such an important issue as the new Tisbury School project and would consequently

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draft a letter explaining pro and con reasons for its vote. There was a suggestion to devote a special TFC meeting to the subject.

• **Late Filed Articles**

- The Personnel Committee informed the FinCom of a late filed article on COLA increases by classification/compensation.

• **Harbormaster's Article for Abandoned and Salvaged Vessels**

(See documents on file.)

• **Meeting Minutes Approval** – Tabled

• **Next Meeting January 3, 2017** (See below: Meeting/Events.)

Police Department

Center for Living

• **All Island FinCom January 16th – Edgartown**

The TFC explored better ways to inform the public including the Voter Guide and a possible budget presentation.

Meetings/Events:

TFC - 6:30PM, Wednesday, January 3, 2018 TBD.

TFC - 6:30PM, Wednesday, January 10, 2018 at the EMS Bldg.

AIFC/Edg. FinCom - 5:00PM, Thursday, January 16, 2017

TFC - 6:30PM, Wednesday, January 17, 2018 at the EMS Bldg.

MMA Conference – January 18-20, 2018 Hines Convention Center, Boston

AIFC - TBD - 5:00PM, Thursday, March 8 or 15, 2017

Tisbury ATM – 7:00PM, Tuesday, April 10, 2017.

• **Adjourn**

• *TOM KELLER MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 9:13PM WITH THREE HUZZAHS TO MARY ELLEN LARSEN FOR BRINGING REFRESHMENTS; NANCY GILFOY AND JYNELL KRISTAL SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.*

Action List:

- Julie Faye: explain increase in FirstStop staff mileage.
- Sam Hart: keep TFC informed of ACE MV status with other FinComs.
- Nancy/Jeff: investigate FY18 capital spending on Town Hall (\$675,000)
- Jeff: find venue for Jan. 3rd TFC meeting.
- Jeff: put ACE MV on AIFC Jan 16th agenda.
- Jeff: ask Suzanne to email all budgets & warrant articles
- Marni - send revenue enhancement ideas to Jeff.
- Agenda Items
 - Minutes 9/28/17, 12/6/17, 12/20/17
 - Non-Profit Issues

continued >

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Documents on file:

- Agenda 12/20/17
- Martha's Vineyard Community Services Town Funding Requests 2019, Members of the Tisbury FinCom (13 p.) 11/7/17
- Martha's Vineyard Community Services Town Funding Requests 2019, First Stop FY17 Actual Expenditures, FY18 Budget and Requested FY19 Budget (14 p.) 12/9/17
- Vineyard Gazette excerpt: Health Aging Joins Forces with Community Services MVCS (4 p.) 12/11/17
- MV Times excerpt: State Official: 'Your Program Is a Model' (2 p.) 12/8/17
- MV Times excerpt: Martha's Vineyard is Setting the Standard for Elder Care (2 p.) 11/30/17
- Kristal cover email re: ACE MV Budget and Information 12/19/17
- Information for Island Towns for a Warrant Article to Support Adult Education Programming July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019 (FY2019) Contract Amount: \$100,000 (Total for All 6 Towns)(4 p.)
- Spring 2018 Article:
- FY 2019 Capital Planning Worksheet (2 p.) 12/6/17

Minutes approved as amended 1/3/18.