

# Open Space and Recreation Committee

Town of Tisbury  
Department of Public Works  
115 High Point Lane, Tisbury, MA

## Meeting Minutes

**Date:** April 4, 2022

**Meeting called to order:** 10:30am

**Place:** Zoom

**Attendance:** Committee members - Cheryl Doble (CD) Carolyn Wallis (CW), Henry Stephenson (HS), James Burrows (JB), Gerry Hokansen (GH); Brian Mello (Eversource); Nancy Weaver (Land Bank)

### 1. Eversource Discussion

Brian Mello is the local Eversource liaison for all of the towns on the South Coast of MA. Discussion focused on what is permissible within the power line ROW. Brian explained that no activity is allowed within a 50' ROW or 25' on either side of a pole; some towns have developed bike paths parallel to the ROW. Parking lots and roads are not allowed within a ROW. The reasoning is not voltage, rather safety as the terrain under the lines is not traded and presents obstacles and liability to Eversource. All lines on MV are distribution, low voltage lines, not the high voltage transmission lines. EV does not enforce this policy, although they put up gates at road crossings to discourage auto entry and short dumping.

Brian will ask the ROW group for their maps of the power line corridor in Vineyard Haven. The Lake Street Park parking lot is under the lines, but there are no poles in that vicinity. It is possible for the Town of Tisbury to assume the liability for the Lake Street Park parking lot and a trail that would pass outside of the 50' ROW. There would need to be an application to the Eversource ROW Group indicating a plan for the areas to enable public access. Brian indicated there are restrictions of tree height and proximity to the poles, so to be mindful of these rules. GH and HS will work on a map and design of areas that we would want to enable public access and parking for review by the Committee.

### 2. Meeting Minutes

Resolution to approve the Minutes of 2/28/22 and 3/7/22 was moved by GH, seconded by HS and approved 5-0.

### 3. Vineyard Wind Project

CD sent a letter to the Tisbury Select Board on 3/16/22 supporting a shift in monies that Vineyard Wind has to spend on a Chapter 91 required public benefit from a proposed overlook on the harbor side of the project over to the Lagoon Harbor side. The DEP has agreed that the Lagoon Pond location would qualify for the Chapter 91 public benefit for the project. Vineyard Wind has agreed that \$400,000 is the amount they have to spend on a public park. On the Lagoon Harbor side, this would support plans for walkways, overlooks, picnic tables and landscaping. The Town would not receive these funds until the Vineyard Wind project is completed. The Select Board's Harbor Use Committee agreed to support the project, with the proviso that public benefit monies be provided by Vineyard Wind for a public park along the Lagoon.

It was agreed that the OSP concept plans be shared with the public and gain input and that consultation with the Conservation Committee be initiated for their guidance.

### 4. West Chop Tennis Program

JB report details of the West Chop tennis program to be held at Lake Street Park. This will be a 9 week program – June 27-August 28<sup>th</sup>, Tuesdays and Thursdays, Adult Clinics (9-10:30am, 10:30-12); Peewee 3-4 yr. olds (3-4:00pm), Youth 7-11 yr. olds (4-5pm) and Teens 12-16 yrs. (5-6pm). Six players per court, two pros, two courts in use, so a total of 60 people/day learning tennis.

The West Chop Club would like their name attached to the name of the program. Registration would likely be through the Town website, with a link to an online registration. A Waiting List will be set up, so if someone cancels, the next person can slot in. JB will call several vendors to find out cost, regs for various registration apps and how to avoid ads.

#### **5. Town Meeting Warrants**

It was agreed that a Committee member will be ready to speak to the CPC warrant articles should that be needed: CW – Tashmoo Springs, Park Amenities; GH or CD – Veterans Park; CD – Owen Park.

The Town has submitted two warrants to provide additional funding for two CPC-funded projects that had bids come in well beyond the allotted CPC funds. For the Church Street Tennis Courts, the fencing line item was omitted, the bid readvertised and finally awarded. A warrant for \$100,000 would provide funds for fencing and other items needed to complete the courts. A second warrant for \$80,000 would provide needed funds to complete the Owen Park bandstand project. CD and CW will provide bullet points to Kirk Metell who will speak on behalf of these warrants.

#### **6. Lake Street**

CD and CW are revising HS's PowerPoint presentation on Lake Street Park to help make the points about the various projects easy to understand and for the PP to be easy to share. It was agreed that the Committee would hold a public meeting on the park designs during the first week in May.

#### **7. Next Meeting Agenda Items**

- Lake Street public meeting, PowerPoint presentation.

#### **8. Adjournment**

GH moved to adjourn; CW seconded. Approved 5-0.

Next Meeting – 4/18. DPW, in person.

Submitted by Carolyn Wallis