



Martha's Vineyard Land Bank Commission

MINUTES
REGULAR SESSION
MEETING OF FEBRUARY 6, 2023

via remote technology

CALL TO ORDER: 3:00 pm

LAND BANK COMMISSIONERS PRESENT AT CALL TO ORDER

Pamela Goff, Wesley Mott, Kristen Reimann, Sarah Thulin, Nancy Weaver

LAND BANK COMMISSIONERS ABSENT AT CALL TO ORDER

Steven Ewing, Peter Wells

STAFF PRESENT AT CALL TO ORDER

Harrison Kisiel

OTHERS PRESENT DURING THE SESSION

Philip Cordella, Jeffrey DuBard, Abigail Rosen (*Martha's Vineyard Times*)

PRESENTATION OF THE WARRANT

Warrant no. 2023-34 was made available for the Commission's inspection.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Hearing no proposed additions, Mrs. Goff declared the agenda approved as printed.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 23, 2023

By a motion made and seconded, the Commission unanimously voted in a roll call vote to approve the minutes as written.

COUNTY AND LAND BANK COMMISSION TREASURERS' REPORTS

None

TRANSFER FEE REVENUES

Revenues for the week ending January 27, 2023: \$122,600.00

Revenues for the week ending February 3, 2023: \$ 34,594.00

Commissioner Peter Wells joined the meeting at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Norton Fields Preserve (Town of Edgartown)

Mr. Kisiel reported that lessee Simon Athearn had requested permission to install an 8'-high sight-permeable perimeter deer fence here. Commissioners reviewed a photograph and map; Mr. Kisiel recommended approval.

After discussion and by a motion made and seconded, the Commission voted unanimously in a roll call vote to accept Mr. Kisiel's recommendation.

2. Square Field (Town of West Tisbury)

Mr. Kisiel reported that lessee Simon Athearn had requested permission to install an 8'-high sight-permeable perimeter deer fence here. Commissioners reviewed a photograph and map; Mr. Kisiel recommended approval.

After discussion and by a motion made and seconded, the Commission voted unanimously in a roll call vote to accept Mr. Kisiel's recommendation.

3. Squibnocket Pond Reservation (Town of Aquinnah)

The Commission reviewed a January 26, 2023 email from Sheriff's Meadow Foundation (SMF) ecologist Kristen Geagan in which she seeks land bank approval of a grant proposal to examine an existing bridge over the Black Brook here. The grant will focus on whether the crossing should be redesigned in order to facilitate better herring access throughout the brook.

The grant had been awarded to SMF for the Old Farm Road crossing of the Mill Brook in Chilmark but that project has been stymied by a lawsuit; SMF would transfer the funds to the Black Brook project. Mr. Lengyel joined the meeting at this time and noted that SMF sought to include land bank staff time as an in-kind contribution, as this is a matching grant.

After discussion and by a motion made and seconded, the Commission voted unanimously in a roll call vote to approve the project, as described.

4. Square Field (Town of West Tisbury)

Mr. Lengyel advised the Commission to brace its earlier vote on this subject with the particular findings outlined in (1.) its view easement; and (2.) the APR that it co-owns with the commonwealth and town.

After discussion and by a motion made and seconded, the Commission voted unanimously in a roll call vote to find that the fence will not (1.) "interfere [per the view easement] with the existing views of open meadows from State Road"; and (2.) "defeat or derogate from the intent of ... [the APR] to provide for the perpetual protection and preservation of agricultural lands."

PUBLIC INPUT

None

ENDORSEMENT OF THE WARRANT

The Commission endorsed Warrant no. 2023-34.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

By a motion made and seconded, the Commission voted unanimously in a roll call vote to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing the purchase, lease, exchange or value of real property. Mrs. Goff stated that the subjects to be discussed are the purchase or value of real property and declared that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Commission. She further announced that the Commission would not reconvene in regular session after the conclusion of the executive session. The Commission entered executive session at 3:23 pm.

certification:

Nancy Weaver
Nancy Weaver, Secretary