

Dukes County Commission (DCC)

**Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 3, 2024
4:00 PM
Remote participation only**

Dukes County Commissioners present: Christine Todd, Doug Ruskin, Tristan Israel, Randy Milch, Don Leopold, Juli Vanderhoop

Staff: Martina Thornton, Juliet Mulinare, Paulo DeOliveira, Lenore Maniaci

Others: Jim Malkin, Kate Warner, Edgartown Parks & Recs Department: Andrew Kelly, Jane Varkonda, Kara Shemeth, Jessica McGroarty, Glen Searle; David Dandridge

Christine called the meeting to order at 4:00PM

Minutes 6-5-2024 - Tabled

Minutes 6/12/24

Don/Tristan moved to approve the minutes of June 12, 2024. So voted. Tristan – yes, Randy – Abstain, Doug – Abstain, Don- yes, Christine – yes. Motion carries.

Steamship Authority Updates - Jim Malkin (Report on file)

Jim gave an update on Steamship business. Union negotiations are still ongoing. Discussion followed on plans of the steamship to address energy efficiency for the boats, operations, budget, cyber security & IT.

Dukes County Health Council Reappointment

Doug/Juli moved to appoint Marina Lent, Betsy Edge, Theresa Manning, Robert Laskowski, Lisa Nagy, Paddy Moore, James Wolff, Dan Pesch to the Health Council for 2 years with expiration on February 28, 26. So voted. Doug – yes, Randy – yes, Juli – yes, Tristan – yes, Don – yes, Christine – yes. All in favor.

ARPA Funding updates & recommendations

Tisbury used up their allocation, some towns informed us they will not utilize the allocation. The recommendation is to extend the period for submitting applications to end of July and accommodate the additional applications.

After that we see how many funds are left and there are couple options the committee would like propose:

- Give more money to the Airport towards the wastewater project
- Allow towns to use some of the funds to other wastewater projects – like municipal buildings, wastewater planning etc.
- If by October 1st we still have funds not allocated, we can consider revenue replacement.

Discussion followed.

Doug/Randy moved to approve the recommendation of the committee as stated. **So voted. Doug – yes, Randy – yes, Juli – yes, Tristan – yes, Don – yes, Christine – yes. All in favor.**

Norton Point Beach – recommendation for the new Dogs on the beach policy

This will be discussed at the next meeting on July 17th. Andy said that the shorebird nesting season is tailing off and under the 1993 guidelines the dogs are allowed on the beach as long as they are leashed and under control. They would only allow it in specific areas where there are no birds. All dogs will have to be leashed on no longer than 10-foot leash. The public is really demanding for dogs to be allowed on the beach. The sticker sales are higher than last year at this time. They are fully staffed, and they will be open for the Fourth of July.

Committee Updates:

Finance Committee (5 min) -Peter is not present.

Land Use Committee – Tristan – the Land Use Committee is preparing the RFP for space needs and will continue at the next week's meeting.

Communication Committee – Doug reported that the press releases are going out but nothing is making it into the papers.

Improvements Committee – Don reported that he met with Martina about next steps and they will take the summer to plan out the process and start the interview process in September.

Regional Programs Contracts – Martina introduced the proposed contracts (documents on file). Randy said that the umbrella agreement would capture our role. Going forward he suggested that we introduce draft contract at one meeting, ask questions and discuss and vote at the next meeting.

Don/Randy moved to approve the regional contracts as presented.

So voted. Doug – yes, Randy – yes, Tristan – yes, Don – yes, Christine – yes. All in favor.

Manager's Report – Martina (document on file)

Center for Living AC is broken – discussion followed.

Fourth of July Parade participation – discussion. It was decided that the county commissioner will plan for next year participation.

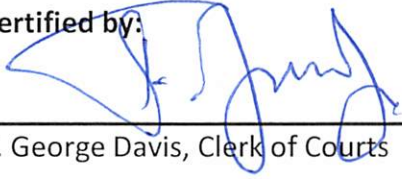
New business – none

Public Comment & Announcements – none

Doug/Don moved to adjourned at 5:13pm. So voted. Tristan – yes, Randy – yes, Doug – yes, Don – yes, Christine – yes. Motion carries.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:13pm.

Certified by:



T. George Davis, Clerk of Courts

