

Dukes County Commissioners
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday February 5, 2025 at 4:00PM
In-person at MV Center for Living building
at 29 Breakdown Lane, Tisbury, MA

Hybrid Meeting

In Person: Christine Todd, Peter Wharton, Doug Ruskin, Tristan Israel, Martina Thornton

Joining by Zoom: Juliet Mulinare, left the meeting at 5:00,
Paulo DeOliveira joined at 4:40 left at 5:40,
Lenore Joined at 4:55,
Ethan Genter, Rich Knabel

Christine called the meeting to order 4:05pm

Approval of Minutes 1-22-2025

Doug would like to defer to the next meeting

Public Hearing on Ordinance to lease upstairs space at 29 Breakdown Lane, Tisbury
(document on file)

Doug/Tristan moved to start a public hearing. All in favor.

The RFP will be in both papers and on the website. Doug suggests sending a letter to the editor of the papers.

No public comments

Tristan/Peter moved to close the public hearing. Passed unanimously.

Tristan/Doug moved to approve the ordinance as proposed. All in favor.

Airport candidates' interviews

Christine thanked Don Ogilvie & Kristin Zern for their years of service with the Airport Commission. County Commissioners conducted interviews of applicants. (*Resume/Applications on File*)

Don Ogilvie- has been with the Airport Commission for 9 years. He reviewed the pros and cons of the last several years as well as things he looks forward to continuing to work on.

Donna Flamme- Chilmark resident, engineering background, pilot, worked on charting software. Currently on the airport Finance Committee.

Matthew Sudarsky- Lives close to the airport. He feels there should be an abutting property owner represented on the commission.

Grant Writer

There was a discussion about how to spend the license plate fund. There was a thought to use money from that fund to contract/hire someone to find additional resources. Also, a possibility to work with MVC or share the services of this person.

Committee Updates

- Finance Committee – Doug- Nothing to report
- Land Use Committee – Tristan- Looking at the RFP & Lease for 29 Breakdown Lane, Tisbury. Also working on how to proceed with work on the courthouse. Doug would like

to set a meeting and Tristan would like to hold off on requesting a meeting without a plan. Christine decided Martina would set a meeting with CAB in the middle of March, to review the courthouse.

- Legislative Committee – Christine- she met with our state representative last week. The housing issue in the state forest was reviewed. It was brought up that we want more representation for the island at the state level. Several of the commissioners met with the Commissioners from other counties where there was a discussion of funding for courthouses and deeds excise tax proposed law changes.
- Communication Committee – Doug- The Op-Ed was printed in the paper. It is a goal to have more of them printed in the future. They have revised phase 2 for Studio Z which now prioritizes updates to the website in advance of the hosting company's upgrade. The cost for phase 2 is \$6,000.

Doug/Tristan moved to approve moving forward with phase two for \$6,000 and pay for it from the Cape and Island License Plates. All in favor.

Manager's Report

Appointments- The deadline has expired for applications, it was January 31st. A discussion was held on how to review appointments going forward. DCC would like the last Airport commissioner and the new applicant as alternate to the Cape Cod Municipal Health Group to be invited to the next meeting for an interview.

Edgartown has requested some adjustments to the contract for Norton Point. Land Use will review the contract requests before the March 5th meeting of DCC when the Edgartown Parks & Rec Department is scheduled to come to discuss the proposed changes.


New business

Immigration issues - Don posed a question about how the county is handling the issue. Information was drafted from other resources and is being shared with healthcare access clients with concerns.

Calendar - The next meeting will be 2-19-2025 at 4pm- hybrid participation.

Doug/Tristan moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:45pm. All in favor.

Certified by:



T. George Davis, Clerk of Courts