

PLANNING BOARD

Master Plan Steering Committee

TOWN OF TISBURY
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MEETING NOTES

DATE: Tuesday, April 4, 2023

TIME: 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

PLACE: hybrid meeting: Martha's Vineyard Museum, 151 Lagoon Pond Road, Tisbury
(zoom info below)

Attendance:

Steering C'tee members: Lyndsay Famariss, Chair (LF), Elissa Turnbull (ET), Mary Ellen Larsen (MEL), Cheryl Doble (CD - PB representative, Phil Hale (PH), Susannah Bristol (SB), Melinda Loberg (ML), Rick Homans (RH), Sean Roach (RH)

Dan Doyle (DD) project admin

Planning Board members: Ben Robinson (BR) - Chair

Consultants: Barrett Planning Group: Judi Barrett (JB), Jill Slankas (JS), Carly Venditti (CV),
Dodson & Flinker: Peter Flinker (PF), Dillon Sussman (DS)

Public: Louisa Hufstader, Macaleer Schilcher

TOPICS:

A recap of the Commercial District Vision Plan "open houses" can be found [here](#). PF and DS asked that the Committee provide input on the following questions:

- What's a good idea that needs to stay in the vision
- What's a non starter idea that needs to be removed
- What ideas have potential but need further refinement
- What concepts are ultimately viable (apply the political reality filter)

The questions covered the following concepts / visions:

B2 District (Upper State Road)

Vision: Enhance the Island's Service Center

Vision: A Second Village Center for Tisbury

Vision: A Place for Everything

Downtown / Waterfront

Vision: Maritime Center

Vision: Arts & Culture

SB, RH, and DD will work to organize the input from C'tee members on these districts.

SSA stakeholder meeting recap can be found [here](#) and that was covered by ML.

A [few key findings](#) from the Community Survey Results was provided by BPG. It was agreed that some outreach should take place to the newspapers in hopes they would cover some of the survey results.

The [project timeline](#) was then reviewed and presented by BPG.

JS provided [guidance](#) to the C'tee members about the upcoming April 10th working session on the 2015 Vision Plan "Purposes"; BPG suggested referring to them as Policies, or Objectives. A smaller working group would help complete work on the Objectives once BPG issues a draft.

Comments submitted by C'tee members on the Key Issues Discussion are still being reviewed. Casey Hayward assisted in transcribing some comments from the SC. They've been compiled and circulated back to the C'tee members.

BR reported that appropriation of funds for zoning bylaw recodification was the only Master Plan related article on the April 25th Town Meeting warrant and that there would not be an opportunity for any presentation about the Master Plan at that meeting. A table could be placed in the Performing Arts Center entry where SC and PB members could hand out some brief literature on the Plan.

ET motioned to support the funding for the zoning bylaw recodification; ML seconded the motion. All members voted in favor.

Mac Schilcher had numerous comments: first, he thanked Elaine Miller for accompanying him up to Boston. Everything runs through the harbor of Tisbury; Administrative ego runs this town.

There are two visions for this town: one is realistic and the other is by waterfront owners who don't want to see boats.

The access road is critical; if Town Hall goes to the B2 district than the Police Dept. can be anywhere in a couple minutes. Please ask the Master Plan to pay attention to the elections. We can't have small visions. The jetty for Tashmoo should be extended into the Sound for better flushing. An anchoring moratorium in Tashmoo would harm businesses. Five Select Board members are needed in town.

Steamship dock needs more dinghies to promote business in town; a brewpub is needed and would be economically friendly. Public employees should not be policy makers. Role of gov't should enhance the quality of life for year round residents.

The tennis courts cost \$20,000/year and could have been used for 40 parking spots near downtown. Shellfish program costs \$200,000 but doesn't bring in more than \$70,000. Mac then ended his comments.

BR reminded the C'tee that we only have 40% of the D&F budget remaining and the C'tee members should be very thoughtful in the next direction the town provides to D&F; the town must take more time if it is needed.

DS and JS indicated that the Actions for the Vision Plans and Actions for the full project need to be fairly aligned, timing-wise.

Next meeting date will be April 10th via Zoom.