

Open Space and Recreation Committee

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

Meeting Minutes

Date: March 13, 2025

Meeting called to order: 10:32am

Place: Zoom/Town Hall Annex

Attendance: Committee members - James Burrows (JB, Zoom), Cheryl Doble (CD), Gerard Hokanson (GH), Maura Valley (MV), Carolyn Wallis (CW)

1. Minutes

- February 27: CW moved, CD seconded. Approved 4-0, 1 abstention

2. Updates - Kirk Metell

- Kirk was not available for this meeting. CD will check with him for an update.

3. Tisbury Park Special Event Application

- A few additional comments were mentioned:
 - Add mention of the Special Event Guidelines to the section “Affidavit of Application.”
 - Add spaces for showing the tent company and caterer to be used
 - Add question about serving alcohol after “Will food be served?”

4. Tisbury Park Special Event Guidelines

- CD sent an updated version of the Guidelines to Committee members prior to the meeting. These changes were discussed by the Committee and several clarifications/changes suggested. CD noted these and will update the Guidelines to send again to Committee members and discuss with Kirk.

5. Tennis Update

- JB emailed draft language for court side signs to Committee members. Everyone was encouraged to send comments directly to James.
- JB emailed a suggested schedule for tennis and pickleball clinics. Everyone was encouraged to send comments directly to James. The Committee discussed the potential for an additional later afternoon/early evening tennis clinic in place of one of the morning sessions. JB will check with David McNamara. Still to be determined is whether to schedule 1 or 2 Saturday sessions at Church Street; JB expressed a concern about overloading David McNamara and his staff and CD was concerned that 2 sessions limited court availability for regular play.
- As suggested at the last meeting, JB determined that CourtReserve could be used to open/lock gates at designated times, eliminating the need for DPW to send someone out for this.

- JB will check registration instructions added to CourtReserve by DPW. These need to be clear and simple/straightforward. (it was agreed to complete and update instructions before the end of March as needed.)
- JB emailed Committee members a draft letter to Friends and Associates of Chilmark Tennis (FACT). Everyone was encouraged to send comments directly to James. After receiving comments JB will send the letter.

6. Committee Updates

- Lake St
 - CW is planning a meeting with Park neighbors to discuss playground plans.
 - Drew Belsky (Health Agent) joined to briefly discuss wastewater plans involving Lake Street. It was suggested that we arrange to have Drew and Gary Kovack (Harbormaster - for pumpout facility) join one of our future meetings to discuss.

7. Open Space Plan Update

- CD suggested that we add a discussion of the Plan update to a future agenda. She also suggested that Committee members look at the 2019 Plan and identify sections they would be willing to edit for the update.
- Dan Doyle (MVC) has sent updated demographic information to CD for the Plan update.

8. Committee Meeting with Joe LaCivita (Town Administrator)

- CD will send Committee members a draft of an invitation/meeting plan.

9. Communication/Outreach Update

- CD/MV suggested that we draft communications for the local newspapers since the articles they promised have not been completed.
- CD suggested that we create fliers with information on Tennis/Pickleball clinics to distribute through the community.
- It was suggested that we link our website to those from local hotels/inns, the Chamber of Commerce, the Tisbury School, real estate companies, and the Harbormaster. JB will draft a “blurb” to communicate to these organizations.

10. Next Meeting

- The next meeting will be March 27. Suggested agenda topics are a tennis update from JB and an update on the Open Space Plan. CD asked Committee members to consider whether to meet once per month (perhaps for 2 hours), rather than twice.

Adjourn Meeting

GH moved, CW seconded, approved 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 12:08 p.m.

Submitted by Gerard Hokanson