

Oak Bluffs

Community Development Council

Minutes of 10.01.08

Meeting #80

9:00 am Town Hall Meeting Room

Members in attendance:

Priscilla Sylvia,, Iona Pressley, Nancy Phillips,
Alison Shaw, Terry Appenzellar, Renee Balter, James Westervelt (recorder)

Members absent:

Richard Westcott

Guest:

Ron DiOrio OB Chairman Board of Selectmen

Item: Minutes

Minutes of the 09.17.08 meeting were read and amended and accepted.

Item: WIFI

Ron DiOrio announced the starting of the second phase of the town's WIFI. The town has initiated a cost saving program by implementing a town wide WIFI system. Phase one has been completed. The town is moving in the direction of streamlining jobs by automating some functions. Documents such as applications and permits could be downloaded, completed and filed on line.

Item: Vehicle Survey and Policy

The committee reviewed numerous policies and agreed that policies enacted by Bourne and Falmouth were the best for our purposes. Both policies did not address energy efficiency. A discussion followed. **Terry** suggested we come up with energy efficient criteria. **Jim** mentioned how each department has its own function and some vehicles might not fit into strict efficiency goals. **Nancy** said we don't know what is happening with the survey. She feels that things fall into a "black hole". **Ron** said that some departments have completed the survey and that **Michael Dutton** will get the results to us. **Ron** expects our committee to come up with a policy for the BOS to review in a few weeks. **Priscilla** said we should have a draft for the BOS and it may take one or two revisions but OB should have an adopted policy by the first of the year. **Terry** said department heads are responsible for putting exemptions a policy in writing. **Renee** said small towns like OB should not be regulated to death, but we should all work together to get as energy efficiency as we can. **Ron** said appearances are important and vehicles should not be parked around town in inappropriate places. **Jim** mentioned Bourne's inventory asset by-law and how we should have something similar. **Terry** remarked how most municipalities have mandated annual asset inventories where all assets are identified and tagged.

Item: Miscellaneous

Ron said that the building across the street from the present town hall might go on the market. Quick decisions will have to be made since the town should not let this opportunity go by. He would like this committee think about the ways the town could purchase this property. He further went on to say that the town should try and avoid going for more bonding until outstanding debt is paid down. A lively discussion followed. **Priscilla** discussed characteristics of the old school building. **Renee** said we could put the PD there or have the present town hall move across the street and have the PD move into the present town hall. **Terry** asked if Michael Dutton has a town campus inventory. **Ron** said it was being redone.

On another topic **Ron** asked what the committee thought of affordable housing (rentals) on the second floor of the old town hall, first floor being occupied by the PD. **The committee** did not like

that idea generally saying in unison that it was not the highest and best use of such a prime piece of real estate.

Ron also reported on the upcoming vote in Tisbury to purchase additional land in Edgartown adjacent to the Edgartown Refuse Landfill. Ob is interested in partnering with Tisbury and joining the refuse district. The town will need \$400,000 for this over approximately three years. He is hoping for a state of art refuse district by having total recycling as a goal. **Terry** said the Vineyard Conservation Society would lend their expertise and be willing work with the town's energy committee. The town expects there will be around \$320,000 in free cash. He hopes to put \$100,000 into the stabilization account, \$100,000 into a trust for retiree's benefits, and \$100,000 towards the land purchase with Tisbury (for establishing the refuse district). **This will open up opportunities for town use of the present landfill area.**

Item: Vehicle Survey and Policy

The committee then took the policies of Bourne and Falmouth and proceeded to group edited them, taking the best from each to form a draft policy for the BOS to review. **Terry** volunteered (once again) to compile our editing and construct a policy for us to review.

Item: Miscellaneous

Renee believes that we should emphasize the fact that the town has only 11 acres designated B-1 and we should protect it.

Nancy introduced a picture of the original Ocean Park bandstand. We then had a debate over whether the railing was true Victorian style or not. **Renee** said any proposal would have to go the Cottage City Historic Committee.

Meeting adjourned 10:35

Next Meeting 10.15.08