

**MINUTES**  
Town Of Marlboro  
Regular Select Board Meeting  
Thursday, August 27, 2020  
5pm Zoom Call Online

**ATTENDANCE:** Present: *In attendance via Zoom, due to COVID-19 precautions:* Jesse Kreitzer, Select Board Chair; Julia von Ranson, Vice Chair; Aaron Betts, Member; Pam Burke, Select Board Assistant; David Elliot & Andrew Richardson, Road Crew; Mary Sargent, Zoning Administrator; Bexx Merck, West River Valley Thrives; Polli Moryl, Amy Tudor, Lauren Poster members of the public

**CALL TO ORDER:** Jesse Kreitzer, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.

**Changes to Agenda**

Added Beaver Deceiver update

Review Information Items & Mail before entering Executive Session

**Public comment**

Bexx Merck introduced themselves as the Tobacco Outreach Coordinator with West River Valley Thrives in Townsend. They work primarily with youth around making healthy lifestyle choices, they invite everyone to reach out through [wrvtworks@gmail.com](mailto:wrvtworks@gmail.com).

From Bexx: *You can find us at <http://wrvthrives.org> or on Facebook for lots of resources, programming info, and updates. You can also reach the Executive Director for partnerships, organizational inquiries, or support at [wrvtdirector@gmail.com](mailto:wrvtdirector@gmail.com) or the Tobacco Outreach Coordinator at [wrvtworks@gmail.com](mailto:wrvtworks@gmail.com) for youth and family support, tobacco use/misuse/quit community resources and more.*

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting Of 8/13/20 were approved. (Kreitzer, Betts) Jesse signed the pay orders.

**New Business**

**Marlboro Heights**

Mary Sargent shared her understanding of what the town had approved for residential development on Marlboro Heights. It seems that there is a difference in the scale of what the Town thought it had approved, and the work that's being done now. Chris Thomberg from the State Agency of Natural Resources made a site visit and will soon let us know what needs to be done. In a voicemail, he indicated that a complaint has been made and there's an enforcement officer assigned to review the potential violation. Given the fact that there's multiple programs involved, Chris plans to follow

the lead of the enforcement officer.

A motion was passed to ask Mary to compile all the town documents pertaining to the development at Marlboro Heights to share with the town's attorney for preliminary review and that the DRB follow up with the landowners to conduct a site visit, as well. (Kreitzer, Von Ranson)

### **Tasha Tudor audio installation**

Amy Tudor spoke to her Facilities Request for a Tasha Tudor audio installation at Muster Field as part of the Brattleboro Words Trail. The Select Board inquired about potential liabilities, parking, publicity and communications, and potential conflicts with other pre-approved facilities requests of Muster Field. The Select Board encouraged Amy to speak with the Marlboro Fair committee, and suggested an addendum to the lease may be more appropriate, rather than a facilities use agreement in perpetuity. The topic was tabled.

### **Town Website**

The town website runs on Wordpress and is hosted by GoDaddy. On the day before the primary election, the site went down. GoDaddy investigated and could find no malware, but could also not determine what had gone wrong. After many days of working with customer support, Pam had them restore the website to a backup from July, and then did coding work to get all the pages displaying properly. Pam suggested building a new site and made suggestions for increased security. Once the town's current subscription with GoDaddy has expired, the town will sign on with a new host.

A motion was passed to pay GoDaddy an extra fee for Wordpress hosting support specifically for the duration of our current subscription, if they can guarantee that they can be more helpful with outages in the future. (Kreitzer, Betts)

### **Old Business**

#### **Town-wide Forum**

The Select Board intends to hold a town-wide forum for all staff, appointees, boards, and committees to discuss current operations in the age of COVID-19, design public survey(s) to solicit feedback from Marlboro residents to improve town services, and suggest features for a proposed redesign of the town website. The date for the forum has been tentatively set for **Thursday, October 29 at 5 pm**. Jesse drafted a letter to invite all potential members. A motion was passed to approve & send the letter as written to all committees and staff. (Kreitzer, Von Ranson)

#### **Beaver Deceiver update**

The owner of the beaver deceiver at North Pond has not yet been able to get to Marlboro to retrieve his materials. The Select Board extended the removal date an additional two weeks. If the materials aren't removed by 9/15, Dave Elliot will be asked to move them.

### **Information Items And Mail**

The Select Board acknowledges receipt of an email regarding neighborhood concerns about the Marlboro Heights project discussed at the beginning of the meeting.

### **Emails regarding COVID-19 quarantining and visitors to Degrees of Freedom campus**

The Select Board acknowledges receipt of emails from townspeople regarding the COVID-19 policies of a fencing retreat held on the Democracy Builders/Degrees of Freedom campus, which were directed to Town Health Officer Susanne Shapiro.

Susanne emailed Seth Andrew of Democracy Builders with questions pertaining to the publicized use of South Pond and the potential for staff exposure. She requested open communication during the pandemic to help mitigate complaints and concerns from Marlboro residents. Seth indicated they “are adhering to both the letter and spirit of the Governor’s orders.”

Chief Growth Officer Chandell Stone stated: *“We have verified that every camper has complied with the guidelines. They all quarantined for 7 days prior to arrival, travelled by car, and have submitted a negative COVID test. This means that they may engage with others, while following social distancing and mask wearing measures, including outdoor swimming and berry picking.”*

Susanne was relieved to know they followed the Governor's quarantining and testing requirements, but indicated that the policies were not listed as part of the retreat’s COVID-related policies, which is what triggered the THO review. She encouraged Democracy Builders to use Front Porch Forum and the community Facebook pages to share any pertinent information with residents.

The Select Board entered executive session to discuss a personnel matter at 6:43.

The Select Board left the executive session and adjourned at 7:03 pm