

SELECT BOARD

JOINT WORKSHOP MEETING WITH NANTUCKET ISLANDS LAND BANK COMMISSION

Minutes of the meeting of August 7, 2023 at 4:00 PM. The hybrid meeting took place in person at 4 Fairgrounds Road in the Community Room. Members of the Board present were Dawn Holdgate, Tom Dixon, Brooke Mohr and Matt Fee. Dr. Malcolm MacNab was not present.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Holdgate called the meeting to order at 4:04 PM. Land Bank Commission Chair Neil Paterson called the Land Bank meeting to order at 4:04 PM.

II. WORKSHOP WITH NANTUCKET LAND BANK COMMISSION TO DISCUSS CONCEPTUAL LONG-RANGE PLANNING FOR WASHINGTON STREET COASTAL RESILIENCY

Land Bank Commission Director Jesse Bell reviewed the status of long-range planning for coastal resiliency for Washington Street as initiated by the Land Bank and funded through a grant from ReMain. She said that today's objective is to bring everyone up to speed on the details of the proposed plan, answer questions and receive feedback and walk away with a clear understanding and commitment of how the Town and Land Bank will partner together on this project.

Town Manager C. Elizabeth Gibson reviewed the status of the Town's role to date, indicating that the Town and Land Bank staff held a workshop meeting with the landscape designer engaged by the Land Bank in June to review status of conceptual planning and the role of the Town going forward with infrastructure issues, including stormwater, sewer and roadways. She indicated that the Town is willing to be a partner with the Land Bank on this project; however, noted there are numerous competing projects, and a determination should be made at some point as to timing and the commitment of resources. She said that currently, unless projects are re-prioritized, the Town does not have the project management capacity to manage or lead this project, which ultimately could encompass a larger-than-currently planned scope. She said the Town could potentially commit some financial resources and that it makes sense for the Town and Land Bank to partner on this project. She added that this area is contained in the Coastal Resiliency Plan as an area to be addressed.

Laura Marett of Scape Landscape Architecture reviewed the presentation contained in the Board's agenda packet, including conceptual planning to date; alignment with the Town's Coastal Resiliency Plan (CRP); project goals; flood risk projections which have contributed to the prioritization of areas on which to focus; the importance of public access; and specific measures to address flood risks including a neighborhood flood barrier. She reviewed various potential features of the concepts, including a bicycle path, and dune restoration/wave buffers. She noted that the elevation of Washington Street as contemplated in the CRP, could be delayed or not necessary for the foreseeable future if other features are in place such as an elevated berm along the waterfront. She reviewed some Town-owned sites, including Francis Street Beach, the Saltmarsh Senior Center property and the Town Pier parking lot as potential areas that could, with proper infrastructure, handle more stormwater and/or rising water. She mentioned that an early phase could involve the Senior Center property. Chair Holdgate stated that she believes that property most likely will become available as a new facility is constructed elsewhere. Ms. Mohr commented on the work done so far being impressive and thorough. She said her greatest concern is how to prioritize it, given the other Town projects that need to be completed and/or started. Mr. Fee said an emergency boat ramp is needed in this area. Mr. Paterson said he thinks the next step might be the formation of a committee comprised of staff, Land Bank and Select Board members. Land Bank Commissioner Kristina Jelleme said one of the issues that needs to be determined is the Town's financial commitment. Mr. Fee agreed and said that

should come from the suggested committee. He said that he appreciates the Land Bank's initiative with this project and supports collaboration between the Town and Land Bank. Some discussion followed as to financial resources that will be necessary. Ms. Mohr concurred with the committee idea and suggested that Select Board members include herself, as the Board's representative to the Capital Program Committee and Mr. Fee, as the Board's representative to the Coastal Resiliency Advisory Committee (CRAC). Land Bank Commissioner Allen Reinhard spoke in favor of collaboration, noting this area is a critical access to downtown. Discussion followed as to potential membership of a committee, including staff. And, including the fact that since the meetings contain elected officials, the meetings will need to be posted. Chair Holdgate asked if there was any public comment. Will McDonough, an abutter, indicated he would like to be engaged in the meetings and/or project.

III. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 4:44 PM.

Approved the 16th day of August 2023.

**SELECT BOARD
AUGUST 7, 2023 – 4:00 PM
NANTUCKET, MASSACHUSETTS**

List of documents used at the meeting:

- II. Washington Street Resilience Framework and Concept Design presentation