

**Tisbury School Committee
in Joint Meeting with the
Tisbury School Building Committee – Design/Construction Phase
4:00PM, Tuesday, April 11, 2023
Emergency Services Facility and by Zoom Cloud Conference**

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TSC Members Present: Chair Amy Houghton, Jen Cutrer, Michael Watts,
TSBC Members Present: Chair – Michael Watts, Connie Alexander*, John Custer,
Rita Jeffers, Reade Milne, Jim Rogers*,
Others: CHA Projects – Aditya Modi, Michael Owen,
Tappé Architects – Chris Blessen, Toby Zaltsman,
W.T. Rich – Evan Moore, Recorder - Marni Lipke
Town: Select Board – Abbe Burt,
Staff: John Custer – Principal, Melissa Ogden – Asst. Principal,
Richie Smith – Superintendent,
Mark Friedman – Business Administrator,
Student Support – Hope McCleod, Meredith Goldthwait,
Shannon Carbon, Natalie Krauthammer, Nicole Shirley,
Press: Louisa Hufstader – Vineyard Gazette,
* TSC/TSBC members late arrivals or early departures

- The Tisbury School Committee (TSC) was called to order at 4:07PM. TSC Chair Amy Houghton welcomed everyone, especially new Tisbury Select Board (TSB) member Ms. Abbe Burt.
(*Recorder's note: Discussions are summarized and grouped for clarity and brevity.*)

II. Superintendent's Report (See below: Meeting/Events.)

Town Meetings started tonight and ran through May.

A. All Island School Committee (AISC)

Tomorrow's meeting would take up the foundation of a Martha's Vineyard Public Schools (MVPS) strategic plan, analyzing Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats (SWOT) results.

B. Student Support Services Update (See documents on file.)

- The Island Parent Advisory Council (IPAC) would meet on basic rights.
- This month's newsletter explored and explained the autism spectrum. Currently there were 6 residential placements with autism as a primary diagnosis and others where it was a partial diagnosis. The Early Childhood Department did a good job with:
 - Early Intervention screening for 0 to 5 yr. old children;
 - public outreach to the Martha's Vineyard Hospital (MVH), day care centers, etc.; and
 - responding to parent concerns
- The Tisbury School Building Committee Design/Construction Phase (TSBC) meeting was called to order at 4:15PM with six members present.

I. Approval of Past Meeting Minutes

A. School Committee (TSC)

The TSC confirmed the March 14th approval of the January 10, 2023 Minutes—mistakenly announced with an incorrect date.

• **ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. JEN CUTRER AND SECONDED BY MR. MICHAEL WATTS THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING TISBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETINGS WERE UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED:**

- FEBRUARY 13, 2023, FEBRUARY 24, 2023, AND
- MARCH 14, 2023;

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, ABSTENTIONS AS ABSENT.

B. School Building Committee (TSBC)

• **ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY PRINCIPAL JOHN CUSTER AND SECONDED BY MS. RITA JEFFERS THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING TISBURY SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS WERE APPROVED:**

- JANUARY 23, 2023, AND FEBRUARY 13, 2023,

5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSTENTION—MS. CONNIE ALEXANDER, AND OTHERS AS ABSENT.

IV. Financial Report

A. Fund Balances (See documents on file.)

- There were no concerns.
- Yesterday's State reimbursement brought the Revolving Lunch Account to \$17,000.31.
- The \$100,000 School Choice commitment to the Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23) budget had been transferred (see 2/14/23 Minutes p. 2 #III A).
- Thanks went to MVPS Business Administrator Mark Friedman, Administrative Support Professional (ASP) Ms. Rachel Hickey, and Town Accountant Suzanne Kennedy for dealing with the complex utility billing due to transferring to the temporary school, and inclusion of partial American Legion utilities.

B. Grants – Nothing to report.

C. Request to Accept Donation from MV Derby (See below: Actions.)

• **ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. CUTRER AND SECONDED BY MR. WATTS THE TISBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY (3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS) ACCEPTED WITH GRATITUDE THE \$700 GIFT FROM THE MARTHA'S VINEYARD STRIPED BASS AND BLUEFISH DERBY SANCY PACHICO YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP TO THE STUDENT ACTIVITY ACCOUNT TO BE SPENT FOR STUDENT OPPORTUNITY FOR FAMILIES WITH CHALLENGES.** The TSC thanked Prin. Custer for his work on the Scholarship.

V. School Committee Vote to Create Friends of Tisbury School 501(c)(3)

Town Administrator Jay Grande, Financial Director Jonathan Snyder and Counsel David Doneski suggested the TSC vote to create this 501(c)(3) to accept donations. Precedents included: Minnesingers Parents, sports team booster clubs and Parent Teacher Organizations (PTO)—currently inactive at the Tisbury School. However the TSC had concerns (see below: Actions) over:

- municipal and public education financial regulations, and

- who would be responsible for 501(c)(3) administrative and tax requirements.

VI. Annual Town Meeting (ATM)

A. Committee Reports (See below: Actions.)

The TSC and TSBC would give a joint report at ATM.

VII. Principal's Report

Principal John Custer requested 2 Elementary and Secondary School Relief (ESSER) III funded, post-pandemic support positions. The TSC discussed continuation of these important positions in the FY25 budget process.

• ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. CUTRER AND SECONDED BY MR. WATTS THE TISBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY (3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS) APPROVED THE CREATION AND ADVERTISEMENT OF TWO ONE-YEAR-ONLY TEACHER SUPPORT POSITIONS:

- ONE FOR EARLY ELEMENTARY AND ONE FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL.

- MCAS testing was in process, with some temporary school space issues.
- Students were participating in outside activities: scavenger hunts, strings lessons, etc.

II. School Building Project Report

B. Project Update (See documents on file.)

• Chairs Ms. Amy Houghton and Mr. Michael Watts reiterated praise for the professional team of Owners Project Manager (OPM) Daedalus Projects/CHA Consulting, Tappé Architects and Construction Manager, W.T. Rich, particularly noting their budgetary responsibility such as contract buy-out savings to put towards unexpected expenses. There would be a more comprehensive budget review at the next meeting followed by regular monthly reports.

- As was usual with older buildings there were challenges ahead. It was found that much less of the 1929 structure was viable than had previously been guessed—several professionals considered the building not worth salvaging. Ms. Burt thanked the Team for the excellent Select Board tour which she found educational.

- Selective demolition was almost complete. Because of the unexpected extent of the demolition, the team was able to view bare walls to judge mold and leakage.

- Two 55 ft. tractor trailers of hazardous materials (hazmat) were trucked off-Island under the supervision of the environmental hygienist in controlled settings. Everything else was separated and recycled/salvaged as best it could, including pulverizing for soil for older/unreclaimable materials, e.g. buckled wood floors. The soil from the under the gym was now being used on the old Hinckley/new Vineyard Power site.

• Local contractors included Goodale's for concrete as well as the landscaping firm—which was a heavy lift partially due to a required 1 yr. guarantee (see Minutes: 9/13/22 p.4, & 11/7/22 p.4, & 2/14/23 p.3).

• The project appeared to be on time with moderate delays for materials, which the professional team worked around by changing focus to different parts of the project.

• Some disruption of the temporary school site during the April vacation would more effectively resolve the rainwater drainage problems (see Minutes: TSBC 1/23/23 p.2, & TSC 2/14/23 p.3).

- Project work and delivery scheduling required massive pro-active coordination with Island work traffic, parent drop-off/pickup, early dismissal, vacations, etc.; for example street cuts for utility installation would happen before Memorial Day in consultation with the Town, the Police and Eversource.

- CHA/Daedalus presented the overall budget report divided into hard costs:

- OPM: CHA/Daedalus Projects had spent 37% of its budget;

- Tappé Architects – 63% and,

- W.T. Rich Construction – 18% (including \$5,000,000 for the temporary school), and then soft cost parts:

- Administration (insurance, legal, advertising, etc.) at 94%,

- Miscellaneous (utilities, moving, Permitting, testing, modulars, etc) at 53%, and

- Furniture/Fixtures & Equipment (FFE)(including Information Technology) at 9%.

The W. T. Rich Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) contained a contingency, which would be drawn down first as needed. There was also a Town funded contingency to be drawn only when the W.T. Rich contingency was exhausted, and so had not yet been touched. The overall budget was 21% expended—i.e. ~ \$17,800,000 of \$81,000,000.

- This budget report format would be part of the Annual Town Meeting report (see below: Actions). The Project website had other financial reports.

- W.T Rich reported on project status.

- Selective demolition was mostly complete—prolonged due to a national shortage of dumpsters.

- A historical restoration company was coming to study the original wood windows.

- Engineers finally found a way to attach the 1929 roof to its structure to conform with current seismic code as well as to support a green roof and/or solar panels. The subfloors were being properly built up to receive new flooring. First floor existing concrete was being cut to allow for new bathrooms, plumbing, etc.

- The secant piles, footings and supportive excavation in preparation for the new gym foundation, were complete.

- Going forward, steel work should begin the first week of June—a major milestone.

- Infiltration systems #1 and #2 had been installed and regrading was proceeding. Soil testing was clean, which allowed it to be re-distributed on the Island.

- The schedule was still pushing for the August/September 2024 move in goal. W.T. Rich was likely to be on site until January 2025, demobilizing the temporary school and regrading/infiltrating/landscaping the other playground. (It was noted that as the School was located at the crown of the Town, drainage affected Town flooding issues, particularly around the 5 Corners intersection.

- A topping ceremony would attach a fir tree (to give back to the earth) and an American flag to the final beam, which project participants were invited to sign. That final beam would be left visible as a project symbol. A School banner would be displayed so:

- **ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. CUTRER AND SECONDED BY MR. WATTS THE TISBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED (3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS) THE TISBURY SCHOOL LOGO AS PRESENTED.**

C. Discussion and Possible Vote on Recommendation of Material Choices

(See documents on file & 3/14/23 Minutes p. 3 #V B.)

Tappé Architects presented interior/ exterior materials for discussion and approval.

- Floors would be largely linoleum tiles (for easy replacement if damaged) with some locations (cafeteria, art rooms, etc.) in sealed gray concrete, (any cracks to be epoxy-sealed at the one year inspection). Bathrooms would be tiled. Break-out spaces would be carpeted, as would all media centers— in the same color as Librarians requested. The gym floor would be a resilient material that looked like wood but bounced better— previously used at other schools.

- The pallet was fairly neutral with natural tones. Off-white classrooms would have accent walls color-coded by floor for easy way-finding. All case work and wood would be a natural maple color. Baseboards would be rubber. All exposed brick walls would be cleaned. The Administrative wing would be in sea tones.

- The cafeteria would have sky-blue sound baffles and television screens for menu displays. Classroom ceilings in the 1929 building would be treated with white, reflective sound proofing.

- The TSBC/TSC consensus was for set-in royal blue court sidelines in the gym.

- 8-10 months before delivery target, Tappé would begin an exhaustive process with a working group to identify furniture and equipment need, wishes, State grants, etc., including a giant FFE trade show in North Carolina—which representatives were invited to attend.

- Fixtures were already determined with LED lighting and centrally controlled, timer switches, as well as the teacher controlled lighting and screens.

- The TSBC/TSC left the podium to examine and discuss samples from 5:35-5:47PM. They requested the following changes:

- eliminate green carpet for royal blue throughout media center and break-out spaces,

- ground floor – light and dark grey,

- first floor – light blue,

- second floor – yellow slightly toned down,

- third floor – dark blue,

- cafeteria – yellow and blue paint and tiles.

- **ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. CONNIE ALEXANDER AND SECONDED BY PRIN. CUSTER THE TISBURY SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDED THE INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR MATERIALS AS PRESENTED AND WITH THE ABOVE CHANGES; 6 AYES, 0 NAYS 0 ABSTENTIONS: PRIN. CUSTER—AYE, MR. ROGERS—AYE, MS. MILNE—AYE EXCEPT FOR THE LIGHT BLUE COLOR, MS. JEFFERS—AYE, MS. ALEXANDER—AYE, MR. WATTS—AYE.**

Adjournment (TSBC)

TSBC Chair Michael Watts thanked everyone for their attendance and attention.

- **ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. ALEXANDER AND SECONDED BY PRINCIPAL CUSTER THE TISBURY SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE MEETING UNANIMOUSLY ADJOURNED AT 5:55PM: 6 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.**

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• ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. CUTRER AND SECONDED BY MR WATTS THE TISBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY (3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS) APPROVED THE INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR MATERIALS AS PRESENTED WITH THE CHANGES RECOMMENDED BY THE TISBURY SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE.

Adjournment (TSC)

Thanks went to all attendees for their time, work and attention.

• ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. CUTRER AND SECONDED BY MR. WATTS THE TISBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING UNANIMOUSLY ADJOURNED AT 5:57PM: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.

Appendix A: Meetings/Events:

- AISC – 6:00PM Wednesday, April 12, 2023
- IPAC Basic Rights – 5:30PM Wednesday, April 26, 2023 - Zoom
- TSC – TBD, 4:00PM, Tuesday, May 9, 2023 – Zoom
- STM/ATM

Edgartown, Oak Bluffs, West Tisbury – Tuesday, April 11, 2023

Chilmark – Monday, April 24, 2023

Tisbury – Tuesday, April 25, 2023 – MVRHS PAC

Aquinnah – (STM only) Wednesday, April 26, 2023

Tisbury Ballot – Tuesday, May 9, 2023 – MVRHS PAC

Appendix B: Actions

Ms. Houghton – research Friends of Tisbury School 501(c)(3).

Prin. Custer/Ms. Houghton/Mr. Watts – ATM Report on Tisbury School status.

Mr. Modi – send budget graphic to Ms. Houghton/Mr. Watts for ATM.

Supt. Smith/Office – AISC report: how universal grants are researched and distributed.

May TSC Agenda:

- Minutes: 4/11/23

- Report on Friends of Tisbury School 501(c)(3)

- Time Capsule Contents

Long term:

Prin. Custer/Ms. Houghton – FY25 budget – pandemic recovery support teachers

Appendix C: Documents on File

- Agenda 4/11/23
- Tisbury School Fund Balances Fiscal Year: 2022-2023 4/10/23
- Tisbury Student Support Services Update (2 p.) April 2023
- Tisbury School, Joint Committee Meeting April 11, 2023 (4 p.)
- The Tisbury School Finishes and Materials (13 p.)
- Tiger Tales April 2023 (8 p.)
- Evers email re: Tisbury Interior and Exterior Finishes (2 p.) 4/13/23

continued

Appendix C: Documents on File (cont.)

- Chat:
 - Richie Smith 54:39 - Best of luck everyone. I am going to prepare for WT Town Meeting. Thank you.
 - Evan Moore | W.T. Rich 01:13:18 - Thank you all! See you next month.
 - Louisa Hufstader | Vineyard Gazette Senior Writer 01:18:11 not seeing anything but the cover page on Zoom

Minutes respectfully submitted by Office On Call/Marni Lipke.

Marni Lipke – Recorder

Date

Amy Houghton – TSC Chair

Date

Minutes approved 5/9/23