

Oak Bluffs Historical Commission  
Minutes of January 18, 2023

Present: Barbara Baskin, chair, Renee Balter, Jim Dearing, Susan Thompson, Kathy Laskowski (via phone), Joyce Dresser

Business:

Renee distributed her proposed letter to the Oak Bluffs Select Board supporting the Martha's Vineyard Commission. She discussed recent newspaper articles wherein various towns are considering ending their support of the MVC as a result of increased costs associated with lawsuits. Renee listed reasons why it would be detrimental for Oak Bluffs to end their relationship with the MVC. Members agreed. It was determined to wait and see how the situation develops, but to be prepared to endorse the MVC should our departure be presented at a town meeting or before one. It was agreed that members would continue to review Renee's letter and note any additional thoughts to add.

A brief discussion ensued regarding 9 Tuckernuck Ave where the owner is doing a major renovation to create a guest house/small hotel. Barbara explained that the Copeland District committee is overseeing the project as well as Cottage City, the town building department and the planning board.

Barbara asked for suggestions for new projects. The idea of a round table discussion was vetoed. Barbara suggested a walking tour. Renee suggested giving students in the OB elementary school some historic information about the town and ask them to draw pictures describing the events which could be made into a book. Events could include how we were once part of Edgartown and split to form Cottage City. This activity would be a joint activity with teachers.

The minutes of August 17, 2022 were approved with 1 abstention.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, February 15, 2023 at 3pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joyce C. Dresser