

Community Preservation Committee (CPC)
Town of Great Barrington
Minutes of January 30, 2014
Great Barrington Town Hall

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chair Karen Smith.

Members present: Thomas Blauvelt, Andrew Blechman, Jessica Dezieck, Martha Fick, Suzanne Fowle, Kathleen Jackson, William Nappo, Deborah Salem, and Karen W. Smith.
Also present: Christopher Rembold, Town Planner.

2. Administrative Business

Dezieck moved to approve the minutes of January 16, 2014, Blauvelt seconded. All were in favor.

3. FY 2015 Timeline

The Committee discussed the potential for meeting the May 2014 Town Meeting schedule. Rembold said the town meeting warrant has to be finalized March 24. Rembold said perhaps a March 6 public hearing could be held for the Plan, but then there would only be two weeks to receive and review CPA applications, decide on applications, and submit recommendations. He said there are essentially only two weeks then for the Committee and applicants to respond, and that did not seem to be a reasonable enough timeframe.

Blauvelt and Blechman were disappointed that the Committee would not be ready to recommend projects. Salem, Fick, Nappo, Jackson, Fowle, and Dezieck thought that the timeline was not feasible and the Committee should not rush to get to town meeting this year.

Jackson suggested using the town meeting this year to make an announcement regarding the Committee's work to date on the CP Plan and draft application, and ask people to attend a CP Plan public hearing.

Rembold said the Committee will have to make the basic recommendations this year at town meeting: the 10% reserve to each category and 5% reserve to administrative. These basic recommendations must occur, and can occur even if a CP Plan has not been adopted. He said when this warrant article is presented the Committee can talk about what they have been doing.

Blechman asked if any small "no brainer" town sponsored applications could be considered this year. Fowle said we cannot be sure anything is a "no brainer." Rembold said no matter who applies, all applications must be reviewed on equal footing. They must be reviewed and all recommendations must be made in a consistent manner.

Smith asked for a motion that the Committee would not accept any applications for FY 2015, in view of the discussion. *Blauvelt moved; Fowle seconded.* Blechman said he hoped the process next year would be smoother. Smith said we would have plenty of time to make sure that happens. Jackson said the Committee could entertain applications as early as September 2014 for the 2015 town meeting, which would give plenty of time to properly consider applications. *Smith called for a vote on the motion. All were in favor.*

4. Community Preservation Planning

Rembold and Jackson presented the revised draft Community Preservation Plan. It has been simplified from the last version and responds to the January 16 comments. Working line by line, Smith asked for comments and suggestions.

There were a substantial amount of comments and changes.

Rembold will present a revised draft at the upcoming meeting. A redline (track changes) version will be sent so all can see the changes.

The Committee also asked to see the two-step application at the next meeting.

5. Reports from Committee Members

There were no current reports from the members.

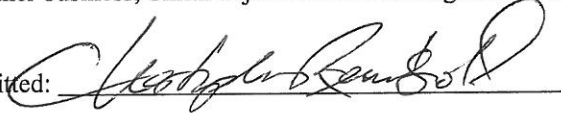
6. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Thursday, February 20 at 6:00 PM at the Fire Station on State Road.

7. Adjourn

Having no further business, Smith adjourned the meeting at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "George Smith", is written over a horizontal line.

Materials presented or distributed for this meeting:

- Draft Minutes of January 16, 2014 meeting
- Revised Draft Community Preservation Plan and Application