

Town of Great Barrington Community Preservation Committee (CPC)

Minutes of March 22, 2016

Great Barrington Town Hall, 2nd Floor Meeting Room

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by Vice Chair Jessica Dezieck.

Members present: Ed Abrahams, Thomas Blauvelt, Jessica Dezieck, Martha Fick, Kathleen Jackson, Bill Nappo Deborah Salem. Also present: Town Planner/CPA Administrator Chris Rembold

Members absent: Suzanne Fowle and Karen W. Smith

Administrative Business

1. Administrative Items

Minutes of January 19, 2016. Blauvelt moved to approve, Abrahams seconded. All were in favor.

Notice of FY 17 anticipated Community Preservation Coalition dues. Rembold indicated what the expected dues would be for the coming year. He said this is paid for by the administrative account.

2. CPA Administrative Update

Town Hall eaves project: Review and approval of roof-related repair plans as part of existing grant for eaves Rembold indicated the CPA FY'16 grant for the Town Hall eaves project does not specifically mention a scope of work for the roof. However, as part of the eaves work, the architect has discovered that the roof is in very bad shape. Therefore since eaves are part of a roof, and the roof would need to be repaired as part of a comprehensive scope of work addressing the eaves, the Town has asked its architect to prepare roof repair plans and specifications. Rembold said he would appreciate the CPC formally voting to clarify that the roof work would be acceptable under the existing grant. Rembold said of the \$20,000 grant, \$5,000 has been spent, and the roof plans will be another \$5,000.

Nappo the report showed the eaves are failing because the roof is failing. This is the next step. DPW Superintendent Joe Sokul said the first \$5,000 produced a report on the eaves and identifies the roof as needing replacement. He said the project is still \$10,000 under its \$20,000 approved CPA budget.

Abrahams moved to approve that roof related repair is acceptable as part of the existing grant. Blauvelt seconded. All were in favor.

Status of other FY '16 projects: Rembold gave a brief update on the other projects from FY'16. He said the Mason library work is going out to bid soon. At 100 Bridge Street, the CDC is in the midst of their permitting phase. They have not invoiced for any CPA funds yet. There is nothing new to report for the Trustees. They've have not done anything yet related to planning for the parking lot and trail on the Flag Rock side. The Newsboy monument restoration will start in May. The Wheeler Farmstead wagon house work is underway with new foundations being poured. The Mahaiwe work is done. St. James Place continues to move forward on the roof which is about 50% complete at this time.

3. Town Meeting preparation

Review draft CPA Town Meeting warrant articles: Rembold gave an overview of the two articles on the warrant and the procedures for the meeting. He said Town Counsel has given his opinion that all projects are eligible under the CPA law.

Nappo said the Republic Committee does not seem to be too happy with the projects this year. Abrahams said there is a misunderstanding that CPA will be used to pay a millionaire at Windy Hill. He said that what we are doing is actually buying something; we are buying the development rights. It is similar the Unitarians—we are buying the public benefit which is historic preservation.

Blauvelt moved to approve the articles as proposed, Salem seconded. All were in favor.

Review draft CPC report to Town Meeting. Various typos were corrected. It was expressed that each project description should start by stating how the CPA grant will benefit the Town. Abrahams moved to accept the report as corrected, Blauvelt seconded. All were in favor

Review communication and plans for outreach event

The Committee discussed the plans for the CPA April 30 event at the Wheeler Farmstead. Rembold and Jackson will be on the local radio to talk about the CPA projects and process.

4. Reports from Committee Members (Discussion)

Nappo said the Massachusetts Historical Commission granted \$15,000 to the Town's commission which will match the CPA grant, if approved.

5. Citizens Speak (Discussion)

Michelle Loubert asked if a project can reapply in future years if not approved by Town Meeting. Rembold said yes.

6. Set Next Meeting Dates

Tuesday May 24 at 5:30 at the Fire Station

7. Adjourn 6:35 PM

Materials presented or distributed for this meeting:

- Draft minutes of January 19 meeting
- Draft CPA warrant articles
- Draft CPA report to Town Meeting

Respectfully submitted:

