

SEEKONK COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Minutes – May 8, 2017

Present: John Alves, David Sullivan, Jr., Jim Tusino, Susan Waddington, Priscilla Dunn, Dave
Dave Norton

Absent: Richard Wallace, Willit Mason, Parks & Recreation

Guest: Craig Mace, Chief of Police

The meeting was called to order in the Town Hall Planning Board Room at 7:31 by Chair, John
Alves.

Minutes of the March 6, 2017 meeting were unanimously approved as written.

New application: On behalf of the Seekonk Police and Fire Departments, Chief Mace presented an application for the preservation and archiving of existing records from both departments. The departments had already had King Information Systems do an analysis of existing records, using their own funds, so the request was to organize and properly store existing records with provision for future maintenance by the Police and Fire Departments. In addition the company would indicate which records no longer needed to be kept and which did. A brief discussion ensued, noting among other things that this project parallels a much larger CPA funded project done for Town and Library Documents in 2012. A motion was made and seconded that we forward this application to Town Meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

Warrant for the June 5 Town Meeting closed on May 5, but John had a place holder in case the Committee was able to consider and accept the application.

CPC participation in the June 10 Seekonk Meadows opening. John will get materials for a table together and all are invited to participate if they wish.

Runnins River Trail dedication will be held May 13 from 9-12.

Review of Concerned Citizens letter to the Board of Selectmen February 2, 2017. The letter was discussed in part at the April 19, 2017 BOS meeting and contained 3 items suggesting possible CPC conflicts of interest.

1. Was there a conflict of interest because John Alves has had an ongoing relationship with Doug Benson. John apologized to the Committee if this turned out to be the case. To resolve the matter he has filed a Conflict of Interest complaint with the state Ethics Committee.

2. It said that the Waddingtons had sold land to the Town using CPC funds. There was no evidence presented and Susan gave a vigorous "no". It turned out that the land in question was possibly the Turner land, several houses down.

3. It was also reported that the Committee held meetings without a quorum. The Clerk had the Minutes Book present which clearly showed that a quorum was present for all meetings.

There was general agreement that the Board of Selectmen had an obligation to either follow through on or discard such anonymous letters.

At this point, David Sullivan left.

CPC fund balances:

Open space: \$10,400

Community housing: \$911

Historic Preservation: \$142,411

Unreserved: 204, 237

The Town received \$62,080 in state funds for the current year. This year's dispersal will probably be less.

Public hearing: As required by CPA law, we will hold our annual public hearing on June 12. Our regular meeting will begin at 7:00 with the public hearing at 7:30. Susan will do the necessary paperwork.

Round table:

Jim Tusino said that the \$150,000 for Seekonk Commons at the November 2016 Town Meeting had been leveraged to \$525,000. The project will go out to bid within the next couple of weeks.

Susan mentioned the lack of representation from Parks and Recreation which needs money for fields and other projects. John said he would contact John Pozzi in that department and would also talk to Richard Wallace about representation from that department.

Dave Norton reported that he would be giving a presentation on Arcade Ave. houses at the Library in the near future. He also mentioned finding the foundation of a very old blacksmith's shop just off Arcade Ave.

Our next meeting will be June 12 as noted above.

Adjournment:

Respectfully submitted

Susan R. Waddington

Clerk