

TOWN OF STOW
Community Preservation Committee

Minutes, July 21, 2014

Community Preservation Committee Meeting

Community Preservation Committee members present: Kathy Sferra (chair), Dot Spaulding, Mike Busch, Louise Nejad, Bill Byron and Rich Eckel.

Admin. Assistant: Krista Bracci

Not Present: Cortni Frecha, Bob Larkin and Vin Antil

The meeting began with a quorum at 7:41 pm. Rich arrived at 8:04 pm.

BILLS & MINUTES:

VOTE: Mike made a motion to approve the \$7,500 invoice for the Gleasondale Project, Dot seconded. The motion was approved 5 - 0 with Rich absent for the vote.

VOTE: Dot made a motion to approve the minutes of June 23, 2014 as amended, Mike seconded. The motion was approved 5 - 0 with Rich absent for the vote.

PROJECT UPDATES:

Historic Document Preservation Project

Linda Hathaway updated the CPC members regarding the \$100,000 project which is currently in phase I. She mentioned feeling a bit overwhelmed about the Request for Proposal procedure (RFP). Linda mentioned that Deb Seith has been starting to develop a RFP template to use in obtaining quotes for the project. Linda has visited New England Document Conservation Center to understand the process they take in preserving historic documents. She also mentioned there are not many of these companies around and could use some help with this project. The members were given a handout on what Linda feels are the vital documents to preserve during the first phase of the project. This project is envisioned to be a multi phase project spanning over multiple years.

Action Items:

- Kathy and Mike are to provide Linda with sample RFP templates.
- Krista to schedule Linda to come to a CPC meeting in January 2015 to update the committee again on the project's progress.

Design Plan For Track Road Trail

John Akers and Jim Salvie joined the committee to discuss the \$46,000 project. The committee for this project no longer exists and no CPA funds have been spent. The Massachusetts DOT suggested not to go forward with the project due to the issue of the trail not being able to connect from Hudson to Stow. The state funds for this project have not been rescinded at this point.

John mentioned that he thought a connection to Hudson was many years away, but in the short term perhaps one of the department heads might take on the job of minor improvements to Track Road (regrading, benches, etc). In this case Town Meeting might be approached about repurposing a portion of these design funds. The committee decided to have him back in six months to see if anything has changed.

Action Item:

Krista to schedule John to come to a CPC meeting in January 2015 to update the committee again on the project's progress.

SMAHT Consultant

Mike Kopczynski informed the CPC members that the project was completed in 2013. He also supplied a letter from Leonardi Aray which details the work he did for SMAHT. Leonardi is still active with SMAHT. Mike went on to mention that they are using Trust Funds to see if it is possible to put affordable housing on two parcels in town (Queens Lane and Pine Point). They may request that CPA fund part of this project in the future. He also went on to say that he is waiting to see what happens with 323 Great Road. He envisions a twelve cottage cluster of units with some open space. It was briefly mentioned that SMAHT would like CPA funds to annually fund the trust. Kathy explained that past committees had not favored such an approach.

Con Comm Open Space Aquisition

Kathy mentioned to the committee that the Conservation Commission would like to use the balance of \$28,000 associated with a 2004 appropriation on land located on the Stow/Acton line. No vote was taken, but she supplied the committee with some information and handouts. The land is owned by the estate of Judith Dunn and totals 30 1/2 acres (24 in Stow and 6 1/2 in Acton). There is no frontage and some of the land is wet. She also mentioned that the land is sandwiched between two other conservation parcels and has long been a priority for protection. To acquire this land with CPA funds an appraisal will need to be done. She plans to bring this to a future CPC meeting for endorsement. She also mentioned that there most likely will be a small amount of funds left over.

NEWS & VIEWS:

Dot mentioned she may have a historical project that needs CPC funding. She was questioning if there was going to be a Fall town meeting and what the deadline was for new projects. None of the committee members knew specifics about the next town meeting.

MEETING SCHEDULE:

September 8th and 22nd
October 6th and 20th
November 10th and 24th

Mike made a motion to adjourn at 9:30 pm, Dot seconded, and approval was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted by:
Krista Bracci