

**TOWN OF STOW**  
**Community Preservation Committee**

**Minutes, November 10, 2014**

**Community Preservation Committee Meeting**

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

*Admin. Assistant:* Krista Bracci

*Liaison:* Brian Burke (Board of Selectmen/Clerk) – arrived at the meeting at 7:56 pm.

*Not Present:* Vin Antil

The meeting began with a quorum at 7:36 pm.

**BILLS & MINUTES**

**VOTE:** Bob made a motion to approve the minutes of October 20, 2014 as amended, Cortni seconded. The motion was approved 6 - 0, with Rich and Mike abstaining.

**VOTE:** Bob made a motion to authorize Kathy to sign off on the final payment associated with the cemetery wall project, Mike seconded. The vote was unanimous.

**COMMUNITY PRESERVATION PLAN**

Kathy supplied a copy of pages 6 - 12 with some changes she felt the committee should consider. The committee discussed these changes and agreed on the following revisions.

**Page 6:** The Dawes Estate line should be removed from the document. Some statistics should be added on how much land has been protected. Rich suggested using comparative data from other towns in our area.

**Page 7 & 8:** The first full paragraph should be revised to reflect the Open Space and Recreation Plan that is currently being formulated. The section labeled 1.1 should be revised to show various ways that land can be protected. There was discussion about showing what projects have been completed and how much CPA funds have been spent. Kathy also mentioned in her notes to discuss recreation and the change in the law that broadens allowable expenditures.

**Page 9 - 12:** The criteria section should be removed. This information is already available through the Open Space Committee and in the Open Space and Recreation Plan.

**ACTION ITEMS:** Bob will look over the next section of the plan which is Community Housing. He will contact Krista if he feels that SMAHT should attend the next CPC meeting to help discuss this part of the Stow Plan. Krista will make the changes to the Stow Plan for further review at a future CPC meeting.

## **CPC SIGN**

Kathy supplied sample signs from other communities to Vin, Cortni and Krista prior to this meeting. Vin and Cortni shared some of their own samples with the committee. The purpose of a new sign/signs is to bring public awareness to the CPC.

**DISCUSSION:** The committee decided they would like the sign to display the following: a picture of the town seal, should read Stow Community Preservation Fund Project, list the town website, and be black and white in color. Kathy suggested placing the signs on most of the CPC projects prior to Town Meeting. There was also mention that this is a low cost expense so there would be no need to put the expenditure out to bid.

**ACTION ITEMS:** Rich will check with his friend who is a graphic designer and see if she would provide some samples. If not, Cortni said she could design the final sample for the committee.

## **CPC REORGANIZATION**

Kathy told the committee that she would like to step down as chair. She also mentioned that she would like to remain on the committee and stressed that having continuity in CPC membership from year to year was beneficial to the CPC. None of the committee members indicated a willingness to chair at this time. Kathy said she would speak with Vin to see if he would be willing to take on the position.

## **NEWS AND VIEWS**

Rich requested that Krista follow up with Maureen Adema to get his reappointment letter. He will then see Linda about getting sworn in.

The Committee discussed placing a press release in the Stow paper and on the website. The press release should inform the public that the last day to submit a request for CPA funding will be January 5, 2015. This is so the committee has adequate time to put the articles on a warrant for the May 2015 Town Meeting. Krista will provide Kathy with a draft before making the document public.

There are three potential CPA fund requests that were mentioned (will be placed on upcoming meeting agendas) - Historical, Recreation, and Open Space.

Kathy mentioned that Boxborough, New Bedford, and Arlington recently adopted CPC in their communities. The total is now 158 communities. She also mentioned that Amherst went from 1.5% to 3% contribution. She reminded the committee that Stow is at the highest contribution which is 3% and affords the maximum match from the state.

Rich requested some CPA figures for his upcoming finance meeting. Krista will obtain these for the next meeting.

## **MEETING SCHEDULE**

November 24th & December 8th

Bob made a motion to adjourn at 8:40 pm, Cortni seconded, and approval was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Krista Bracci

