

Wayland Community Preservation Committee
January 18, 2011
Meeting Minutes

Meeting Attendees: Jerry Heller, Chairman, Maureen Cavanaugh, Anna Meliones, Jon Mishara, Ira Montague, Charlie Raskin, Siobhan Zane

The meeting was called to order at 8:20 p.m. at the Wayland Town Building.

1. Minutes – the minutes from the December 12, 2010 meeting will be reviewed and approved at the next meeting.
2. Mainstone Farm, Land Planning – Jerry Heller provided an update on the contract with Beals and Thomas, the firm that will be undertaking the land use assessment at Mainstone Farm. Jerry Heller and Christa Collins of Sudbury Valley Trustees (SVT) met with John Thomas of Beals and Thomas and finalized the scope and budget. The contract is being forwarded to Fred Turkington for the Town’s signature.
3. Mainstone Farm, Appraisal – The next stage for Mainstone Farm will be to undertake an appraisal of the land, based upon the results of the land use assessment referenced above. SVT solicited three proposals from Avery Associates, The Foster Company, and Prospectus LLC. The Committee discussed the three proposals and reviewed the cost estimates. It was agreed that all three firms were professionally qualified and capable. The Committee also considered input that SVT has a good working relationship and has had positive experience with Avery Associates on other projects. Siobhan Zane motioned to engage Avery Associates. Charlie Raskin seconded the motion. The vote was six supporting the motion with Maureen Cavanaugh recusing herself as she has a professional relationship with Prospectus.
4. Preservation of Town’s Historical Documents – The Wayland Historical Commission, represented by Siobhan Zane, proposes to commence restoration of Town documents and requests consideration to include such proposal as a warrant article for the Town Meeting in the spring. The recommendation of which documents to be preserved is based upon a feasibility study undertaken by an outside consultant regarding the preservation of the Town’s historic documents. (It was noted that the Committee originally approved \$10,000 to undertake the feasibility study. That effort expended \$1,900; the balance of which remains in the CPA fund.) The consultant reviewed the Town’s records and made recommendations for preservation and digitizing the documents. Lois Toombs, Town Clerk, then prepared a summary of the top priority documents that are most deteriorated or “urgent,” including – births, marriages, deaths, index books. The documents will be preserved and will be available on-line, consistent with other surrounding towns.

It was noted that in addition to it being sound preservation practice to preserve the records, the Town is legally obligated to retain and preserve them. Massachusetts Public Record Law, M.G.L. Chapter 66, Section 8 establishes that no public record created prior to 1870 may be destroyed. All such records are considered to have historical value requiring they be preserved and safely kept.

The Committee discussed how to best approach preparing for Annual Town Meeting (ATM) and agreed to revisit this matter as ATM draws closer.

Charlie Raskin motioned to fund the activities for the purpose of preserving the Town's historical documents not to exceed \$160,000. Such amount to be drawn from the portion of the CPA fund dedicated to historic purposes. Maureen Cavanaugh seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous with seven supporting the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Cavanaugh