

Community Preservation Committee Minutes

Date: November 18, 2020

Time: 7:30 PM

Place: Zoom Virtual Meeting

Members Present: Didi Chadran, Fran Nickerson, Doug Thornton, John Lee, Beth Williams, Stacia Donohue, Pam Marston, Stu Sklar

Absent: Michelle Catalina, Jo Ward

Guests: Peter Dorward - Chair, Harvard Open Space Committee, Ken Crater - Community Harvest Project, Eve Wittenberg, Don Ritchie - Chair Conservation Commission.

Meeting was convened at 7:31 pm.

1. Roll Call, Sound Check were done. Preamble, Rules for Participation, and Reminder that meeting materials are available online and that this meeting is being recorded were read by Didi Chadran and Pam Marston.
2. Public Comment Period - None
3. Review Minutes from 10/28/2020 Meeting: Minutes approved as written.
4. Application Overview Discussion and Q&A
 - a. Community Harvest Project APR: Ken Crater presented the Prospect Hill Community Orchard's request for \$150,000.00 towards purchasing an APR for the 75-acre Community Harvest Project Orchard at 115 Prospect Hill Road in conjunction with the MA Dept. of Agriculture Resources. Preservation of this property has been noted as a high priority by the Town, Harvard Conservation Trust and Sudbury Valley Trust. Total project cost is \$2,500,000.00. MDAR has committed \$1.239M if the APR is approved based on the orchard's land value. Last year CPC granted \$150,000 toward this project. Orchard gifted to CHP in 2013. Purchase & Sale Agreement signed with MDAR, subject to fundraising remaining balance. Agricultural Preservation Restriction approved by MDAR on November 6, 2020. Sudbury Valley Trustees have not given a fixed funding commitment. CHP actively applying for funding grants.
 - b. Conservation Commission, Open Space Committee: Peter Dorward presented the Open Space Protection Prioritization plan for Harvard.
 - To Protect Open Space for
 1. Agriculture
 2. Ecologically Significant Areas
 3. OS Corridors for Humans and
 4. Wildlife

5. Water & Wetlands

Peter also highly recommended that the Town/CPC support CHP's project.

5. Treasurer's Report: John Lee updated the draft budget for the upcoming fiscal year with the new, good news, regarding the state match which went from the projected 17% to 28%. He also adjusted the FY21 collection after hearing the presentation the assessors made to the select board on Tuesday, November 17th. The new number is slightly smaller (by a little more than \$5K) than what he used on the last draft. But with the increase in the state match we have more funds in the budget.

<u>COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUND</u>		
Draft Estimates for FY22 as of 10-28-20		
<u>FY22</u>		
Beginning Unreserved Fund Balance	14,670.00	
FY21 Collections	267,514.40	
TaxLiens		
Surcharge Interest	1,000.00	
FY21 Bank Interest	300.00	
FY21 State Reimbursement (Nov 2020)	70,086.00	28.6%
FY21 Town collections plus FY 21 State reimbursement	337,600.40	10% requirement (\$33,800.00)
Total	353,570.40	
<u>FY22 Requests</u>		
	Requested	Voted
CPC Expenses	2,500.00	
Town Conservation Fund	150,000.00	
Affordable Housing	33,800.00	
Town Hall Debt	48,000.00	
Preservation of Town Documents	25,000.00	
Athletic Field Planning Subcommittee, Bare Hill Pond Woods	20,000.00	
Athletic Field Planning Subcommittee, Harvard Park	30,000.00	
Park & Rec Kiosk upgrade	5,000.00	
Total FY22 Requests	314,300.00	\$0.00
FY20 UNRESERVED FUND BALANCE	39,270.40	\$353,570.40
<u>RESERVES</u>		
Open Space	0.00	
Historic Resources	0.00	
Community Housing	0.00	

Fire Department - Peter Warren has turned money granted over to Chief Sicard. Documents have been sent to the restoration company. Peter Warren asked that we allow a late grant application. CPC voted to not allow late application. Tennis Court came in less than budgeted. Stone Wall figures came in as less than budgeted.

6. Other Business

- a. Pam updated us on Stone Wall. 6 years in the process. Seeing end of project.
 - b. Staci asked that committee members take the Planning Board's Senior Survey.
- 7. Adjourn - Meeting adjourned at 8:12pm.

Next meeting scheduled for December 16, 2020.