



COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, July 16, 2015

Vice-Chairman Bill Raus called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. with Betty Slade, Hugh Morton, Tim Gillespie, Janet Jones, Elizabeth Collins, Richard Lambert and Anne Brum. Absent was Jim Coyne.

Reorganization & Introduction of new members.

New member Hugh Morton, Finance Committee Representative was present but had not been sworn in; he attended as an uncertified observer. Members welcomed Mr. Morton to the committee.

Ms. Collins motioned to send a letter to Warren Messier thanking him for his service on the CPC since inception in 2002. Ms. Jones seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Mr. Gillespie nominated Mr. Raus as Chairman. Ms. Collins seconded the motion and the vote was 7 in favor with Mr. Raus abstaining.

Mr. Gillespie nominated Ms. Slade as Vice-Chair. Ms. Collins seconded the motion and the vote was 7 in favor with Ms. Slade abstaining.

Invoices and authorized signatory.

Ms. Collins motioned that Ms. Slade or Mr. Raus be authorized to sign off on invoices/bills. Ms. Jones seconded the motion. The vote was 6 in favor with Mr. Raus and Ms Slade abstaining.

Update on Beach Avenue – Elaine Ostroff.

Buzzards Bay Coalition (BBC) received a grant from Coastal Zone Management since last meeting. The project is for dune restoration which means the road will be elevated. The dune crossing structure will then be less of a structure and it is anticipated that it will have reduced costs and thus be a simpler project. She noted that there will be another Commission on Disability member taking her place and will be back to introduce the new chair. Mr. Gillespie asked if there are any changes in the application. Ms. Ostroff noted that the same engineer will be working on both the BBC project and the current CPA project for the dune crossing structure.

Mr. Morton stated that he wanted to note for the record that he would recuse himself from any discussion on Beach Ave. as he is the president of the Charlton Dock Corp.

The Moby mats that were funded last year are for use in the Knubble area and the Highway department is currently looking for the stakes that were previously delivered for securing the mats as they have been misplaced.

Westport Youth Athletic Association – Playing Fields Update. Ken Sullivan

They continue to fundraise. They have had a big initiative with parents who have children on the various baseball teams raising funds as a team. He invited the CPC members to stop and see the site.

Preliminary discussion. Historic restoration of fence with same design at Linden and Maple Grove Cemeteries. Andrew Motta.

Ms. Slade asked Andrew Motta, the new Cemetery Director to come to speak to the CPC in a preliminary discussion. Mr. Motta has been at the department since 2010 and as its Director since February of 2015. He described the project where restoration and replacement of historic pickets would be made by a hired person for Linden Grove and Maple Grove Cemeteries. His estimate for materials based on mahogany material totaled \$10,360.00 and with pressure treated the cost for materials is \$6,010. Tim Gillespie suggested that the pressure treated would not accept paint and Mahogany would not need painting every 2 years. Mr. Motta said the department could sustain the maintenance but not the replacement in the future.

Mr. Gillespie stated that this is exactly the kind of project that CPC is for and that it benefits the town. He suggested looking into Liberty Lumber in RI for a sustainable product going into the future as in his opinion, pressure treated should not be used and mahogany will not hold up. It was suggested that maybe the company could cut the pickets and do a spray painting before they are put up. Mr. Gillespie will make an inquiry for Mr. Motta and contact him.

Ms. Jones stated he would need to have a Historical Commission review and that he would be useful to find out when it became a picket fence because the photos he submitted show there used to be a stone wall along certain portions of the road.

Mr. Morton suggested that the pickets all be sprayed or painted during production.

Mr. Gillespie suggested submitting a project submission soon so that the Historical Commission would be able to take action based on the submission before the CPC.

Ms. Jones suggested getting in touch with Bill Kendall, and schedule a meeting with the Historical Commission – which meets the first Monday of the month.

Ms. Slade stated if the pickets are manufactured, prevailing wages may not apply but will apply at their installation.

Ms. Brum asked if they should make provisions to acquire spare pickets for future use in case of needed repairs. All agreed that is a good idea.

Ms. Slade wanted to make sure that the members all are in agreement. This is a project that qualifies under historic restoration under CPA because the two cemeteries are registered historic sites.

She noted that Mr. Motta is now entering new interments into the website. However it is time consuming to take photos and enter them and he does not have the staff time for that aspect. Ms. Slade stated that there will be a need for someone to do this in the future.

Ms. Jones stated that the WHC would need him to bring whatever old photos he can find as evidence of the wall and fence.

Preliminary discussion. Request for funding to complete the microfilming and scanning of town documents.

Ms. Slade stated that there have been four different projects but more documents have been found that need scanning and preservation. Each time, she has asked for \$20k to cover the microfilming and scanning and archival boxes for the original documents. She has tried to get the documents on the Town website with no success, and is looking into finding a website that would host the information for public access. Ms. Slade will submit a new project submission based on what other documents need preservation.

Discussion of the preparation for the public hearing in September including newspaper ads, letters/emails to town bodies and non-profit organizations.

There has been an announcement in the local newspapers. The non-profits and town departments will also be notified. The advertising for the public hearing will be in the papers 2 weeks prior to September 10, 2015. Mr. Raus thanked Ms. Brum for her letter to the editor that was published in the paper.

Consideration of Special Recognition for Warren Messier's service since the inception of CPA (2002) in Westport.

CPC will draft the citation and ask the BOS to endorse along with the CPC.

CPC will prepare a plaque paid for by the members of CPC from their own funds.

Minutes.

June 11, 2015

Ms. Collins motioned to approve. Ms. Jones seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous. Mr. Gillespie recused himself because he was absent.

Correspondance and Communications.

Ms. Slade stated she has heard from the Land Trust that the conservation restriction for the Camara and Nisby properties are under consideration by the Town Administrator at the present time.

She also spoke with Stanley Cornwall who is project manager for the Acoaxet Chapel to get information for the grant agreement. The CPC needs to consider what type of requirement there is for this \$10,000 grant. Such requirements differ from town to town and project to project. Sometimes it is as simple as permanent sign placed in a position mutually agreed upon. Work is not anticipated until spring so there is time to work on this.

Ms. Slade also spoke with Mr. Messier who was present at the time of opening the bids for the Westport Historical Society's (WHS) Bell School project to repair the foundation. There was only one bid and it was too high based on available funding. He felt that he could work with the Westport Historical Society to help them develop something better. The WHS may have to come back under a complete new application since all the bids came in high and it is expected that the higher cost is required. Mr. Raus stated that the WHS should come back to the CPC with a proposal that reflects true costs.

Ms. Slade stated CPC should also be looking to see what its priorities are going into the future. Mr. Raus stated that is what is a great part of what the meeting in September will be about. He also suggested asking the Coalition to come that same evening to talk about the CPA, grant agreements and qualifications for CPA funding, among other things.

Ms. Slade stated that the Coalition needs to be notified of the new member and new officers. Ms. Tabit will take care of that.

Ms, Collins asked that "Request Agenda Items For The Next Meeting" be included on the next agenda.

-She said a few people have approached her about the Town Hall floors. She would like to place that discussion on the next agenda.

-She also wanted to place on the agenda the ceiling damage on the 2nd floor.

Invoices.

CLE Engineering - Beach Ave Accessibility period from April 6 2015- May 30 2015: \$2,761.00

Members voted to approve unanimously Mr. Morton abstained

Next meeting:

Regular Meeting –August 27, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall

Public Informational Hearing September 10, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall

Adjournment

Members unanimously adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Submitted by Lucy R. Tabit