Community Preservation Committee

MINUTES of meeting Thursday, January 10, 2019

Members Present: Michael McGrath; John Wilkes; Amy Hahn; Russell Powell; Tom Gingras; Steve Touloumtzis; Harrison Bardwell; Bob Wagner

Meeting called to order at 5:00PM

The committee welcomed Harrison Bardwell and Steve Touloumtzis as the new representatives to the committee from the Conservation Commission and Open Space Committee, respectively.

Met with Joe Lavallee to discuss the questions raised by the committee on the Cemetery Commission proposal for Main Street Cemetery:

Joe reported that the Cemetery Committee is OK with following the MA Department of Conservation and Recreation’s recommendations on repairing and installing roads and pathways in historic cemeteries. The committee will put together a new plan and request bids based on the DCR guidelines. He also noted that if there is stress on the CPA budget this year, the committee could withdraw their proposal for re-submission next year.

No action taken by the CPC on this project proposal.

Met with Tom Tataro to discuss the questions raised by the committee on the American Legion proposal for the Legion Hall:

Tom noted that the group at the Legion working on this proposal had not had a chance to discuss the questions raised by the committee. A few of the members are out of town for a portion of the Winter. Tom mentioned that the Legion has been identified as the recipient of a gift from the Will of a recently deceased member. The Legion would apply these funds towards the proposed project as a match. Tom did acknowledge that the membership of the Legion has been declining. He provided more detail on the request for funds to install a fire suppression system in the building. This would enable the Legion to make their kitchen available to others to use for events or projects, which provides a revenue source for the Legion.

No action taken by the CPC on this project proposal.

Steve Touloumtzis provided an update on the Open Space Committee’s plans for fundraising in support of the Smith Academy Park pavilion.

The committee reviewed the proposals to provide funding in support of the effort to protect the Sliwoski Farm via a Chapter 61A Right of First Refusal action. These two proposals, if recommended, would be presented at a Special Town Meeting scheduled for January 29th.

Amy Hahn made a Motion to advance to the Special Town Meeting an allocation of up to $60,000 from the Community Housing Reserve fund to secure a deed restricted affordable house lot on the Sliwoski Farm. Seconded by Russell Powell. Yea Votes: Wagner, Touloumtzis, Hahn, Gingras, Powell, Bardwell and Wilkes. No Votes: McGrath. Motion approved.

John Wilkes made a Motion to advance to the Special Town Meeting an allocation of up to $120,000 from the Open Space and Undesignated Reserve funds to secure a deed restriction to protect 23 acres

A Motion to approve the Minutes of December 12, 2018 was made by Steve Touloumtzis and seconded by John Wilkes. Approved unanimously.

A Motion to adjourn was made by Tom Gingras and seconded by Mike McGrath. Approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30PM.

[Signature]

Approved

[Date]