

Community Preservation Committee

April 18, 2018

Attendees: John Lee, Beth Williams, Pam Marston, Didi Chadran, John Mark Walker, Michelle Catalina

Absent: Jo Ward, Municipal Affordable Housing Trust and Park & Rec representatives

The meeting convened at 7:38 PM.

Minutes from March 21, 2018 meeting were approved, as amended.

1. Treasurer Update: No new statistical data from January's figures. John reported that the match figure to be received from the Community Preservation Coalition is estimated to be about 11%.
2. Public Comment: None received.
3. Department of Revenue Record Low Estimate for Fall 2018 CPA Trust Fund Distribution: On April 3, 2018, Stuart Saginor of the Community Preservation Coalition sent the following update:
"The Department of Revenue has issued its annual budget memo to municipalities and it includes an estimate of 11.5% for the November 2018 first round CPA Trust Fund distribution. As in the past, this is the figure that all communities with a local surcharge of less than 3% should use when finalizing their FY19 CPA budget this spring."

On April 16, 2018, Stuart sent a update informing us of House Amendment 466 which calls for an increase to the recording fees at the State's Registries of Deeds, and preliminary estimates indicate that this increase would restore the first round distribution in 2019 to a level above 30% for all 172 CPA communities. He asked that we please contact your State Representative this week and ask them to support an increase to the CPA Trust Fund. After discussion, Didi will draft a template letter asking for support for this amendment and distribute it to the Committee and community.

4. Stone Wall Preservation Work: Pam Marston reported the work should be completed within the month and being done properly with the interior cemented to create stability. Vendor will be continuing work up to the Library walkway. Discussion was held regarding remainder of the wall up to Pond Road and criteria for the next RFP for that work. Pam will work with Michelle Catalina on criteria. Discussion was also held regarding whether that section of the wall would be relocated for road/sidewalk modifications to Massachusetts Avenue and Pond Road.
5. Town Meeting Reports: Discussion was held about who would be at Town Meeting and who would be reading the CPC Warrant Articles.
Article 26: Community Preservation Committee Report – Didi Chadran
Article 27: Town Clerk – Preservation of Historic Town Documents – Pam Marston
Article 28: Conservation Commission – Invasive Plant Management – Jo Ward/John Lee

Article 29: Community Preservation Committee Affordable Housing Reserves – John Mark Walker

Article 30: Payment of Debt on Town Hall Renovation – John Lee

Article 31: Community Preservation Funds – Administrative Expenses – Didi Chadran

6. Action Items:

- a. Didi will draft a template letter asking for support for this amendment and distribute it to the Committee and community.
- b. Pam Marston and Michelle Catalina will determine screening criteria for stone wall RFP.
- c. Didi will send out status letter requests for next meeting.

Next CPC meeting scheduled for Wednesday, May 16, 2018 in Volunteers Room, Harvard Town Hall.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm.