

**COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2021
REGULAR MEETING - 7:00PM
REMOTE LOCATION
MEETING MINUTES**

Members Present: Lara Dubin, Chair (LD), Robin Conley (RC), Mary King (MK), Tammy Pelletier (TP), Carol Pike (CP), Joe Stacy (JS)

Members Absent: Tony Mateo

Others in Attendance: Lindsay McCarthy; Wendy M. Levy, Boards Clerk

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Chair LD called the meeting to order at 7:13pm.

LD noted she called this meeting to vote which proposal will make it to the next stage: having a representative from each project come for a question-and-answer period. It is not to vote on whether to approve the project.

I. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 21ST MEETING MINUTES

This item is tabled until the next meeting to give committee members time to review the draft minutes.

II. DISCUSS AND VOTE TO DETERMINE WHICH PROPOSAL APPLICANTS TO INVITE TO THE NEXT OPEN MEETING TO PRESENT THEIR CASE AND ANSWER QUESTIONS

- Mill Brook Trails Restoration

LD solicited questions. She stated that this project meets all eligibility requirements for consideration.

RC noted the Open Space Committee is doing a lot of research on this project, and the Conservation Commission will also be involved.

JS reminded his colleagues about TM's snowmobile question from the previous meeting. LD said committee members can ask about this at the question-and-answer session.

LD reviewed the steps for approval of all proposals:

They decide if the project is eligible.

They invite representatives from the project to a meeting for a question-and-answer session.

They vote on whether to support the proposal.

MOTION BY CP TO INVITE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE TRAILS PROPOSAL TO A CPC MEETING. JS SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- Council on Aging's Senior Center Storage Shed

LD stated this proposal meets all eligibility requirements. The only questions are about location, and

the type of structure.

CP, a member of the Council on Aging, said the council will meet soon, and she will send the questions to her colleagues on the council. She added the shed's footing was another question.

MOTION BY JS TO INVITE COUNCIL ON AGING REPRESENTATIVES TO A CPC MEETING. RC SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- PTO Elementary School Pavilion

LD raised the question of whether this proposal is more educational than recreational, but added she thinks the proposal meets recreation requirements.

JS reiterated his concern about which party is responsible for maintenance. He noted the PTO might suspend their project; he is waiting to hear back from them. A discussion ensued on maintenance options. LD said the CPC can invite them to a meeting and ask them about this, and the materials used in the pavilion's storage shed.

RC reiterated her opinion that this proposal is primarily educational. A discussion ensued. MK supports inviting representatives to a meeting to ask them about the project's recreation use.

JS expressed concerns about patrolling for inappropriate use of the pavilion, and access to bathrooms. A discussion ensued. LD said committee members can address these concerns with the PTO at a meeting.

MOTION BY LD TO INVITE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE PTO TO SPEAK TO THE CPC ABOUT THEIR PROPOSAL. TP SECONDED.

VOTE:

LD - YEA

RC - YEA

MK - YEA

TP - YEA

CP - YEA

JS - NAY

MOTION CARRIED 5-1

- First Parish Church Clock Repair

LD reported on her findings: the town considers the Town Clock to be town property. But, she said, the questions remain: where does the clock end and the steeple begin, and can the CPC approve this funding, especially because it is retroactive.

MK said the rules do not support the CPC funding this project. She expressed a concern that if the CPC approved it, it would establish a precedent. She said her opinion might be different if representatives from the church had approached the CPC before they had their contractors perform the work.

Lindsay McCarthy asked if there was another way the town could fund this project without the funding

coming through the CPC. LD agreed this is a good question. A discussion ensued.

JS asked which party is responsible for maintaining the town clock, and if the town should conduct a regular inspection of the clock and steeple. A discussion ensued.

Wendy M. Levy notified LD of some old First Parish-related files she found when organizing the documents in the Land Use Room.

TP said an important consideration is if the work was done on the clock, or the supports. She advocated for inviting church representatives so the committee could ask them about it.

RC noted this issue must have come up in other towns, and asked if the CPC could ask the church representatives to research it. LD said the CPC can ask them to provide more information on this.

JS asked about flexibility in the Community Preservation Plan criteria. LD responded: it depends on the criteria. A discussion ensued.

LD noted the difficult position in which the church representatives found themselves because of the timing of the discovery of the damage. But, she noted, the CPC could not have immediately issued funding anyway because of the regulations dictating how funding is approved and disbursed—it has to go through Town Meeting.

LD said that regardless of what the CPC decides on this particular matter, the process will help them define their policies. TP agreed.

CP reminded the group that if the clock mounting is considered municipal property, as per the state CPA guidelines, the CPC cannot fund it. LD agreed.

MOTION BY TP TO INVITE FIRST PARISH CHURCH REPRESENTATIVES TO THE CPC MEETING TO DISCUSS THE REPAIR OF THE CLOCK SURROUNDS. MK SECONDED.

VOTE:

LD - YEA

RC - YEA

MK - YEA

TP - YEA

CP - YEA

JS - NAY

MOTION CARRIED 5-1

III. SET UP DATE AND SCHEDULE FOR PROPOSAL Q&A SESSIONS

LD announced the meeting date and time: Thursday, February 18, at 7pm. She detailed the structure of the meeting, and in which order the committee will hear from proposal representatives. TP noted she has a Planning Board meeting that night, which begins earlier, and if she can, she will attend the CPC meeting.

LD made the suggestion of holding a separate, subsequent meeting for the committee to make their decisions on the proposals. The group agreed.

IV. OTHER UNANTICIPATED BUSINESS

None.

V. ADJOURN

MOTION BY JS TO ADJOURN. MK SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting adjourned at 8:19pm.

Respectfully submitted by Wendy M. Levy from minutes taken by Wendy M. Levy.