

Wrentham Community Preservation Committee Minutes
Wednesday July 24th 2019
Bennett Gardens Meeting Room

Present: Chair Barry Kassler, Robin McDonald, Leo Immonen, Mark Cuddy, Alex Leonard, Steve Langley, Scott Manchuso, Chuck Woodhams Alan Richard.

At 7:01 p.m., Barry Kassler called the July 24th 2019 meeting to order in Bennett Gardens meeting room.

Barry Kassler noted that effective Monday July 29th 2019 Heather Ledbetter will assume administrative duties for CPC. Heather will serve as the Administrative Assistant to the Conservation Commission as well. Heather will work up to 19 hours per week with approximately 4 hours per week allocated in service of CPC. Heather is expected to be in attendance at the August 28th CPC meeting.

Although the approval of CPC meeting minutes was not first on the agenda Barry Kassler suggested the CPC take action on the approval of meeting minutes before reviewing and deliberating on CPC project applications. Steve Langley made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of April 17th 2019, May 22nd 2019 and June 26th 2019 as amended. The motion was seconded. Vote: unanimously approved.

CPC members had substantial dialogue regarding the detail and material significance of some of the amendments proposed for the meeting minutes. It was reiterated that the minutes are to reflect attendance, motions, votes and a summary of key significant points of discussion at the meeting. Additionally, it is preferred that corrections and amendments to the meeting minutes be provided prior to the meeting so as not to take up valuable time at the meetings making amendments to meeting minutes. Leo Immonen, noted that receiving the DRAFT minutes 48 hours in advance of the meeting did not afford him the time to propose amendments in advance of the July 24th meeting.

At 7:25pm Barry Kassler called for the CPC meeting to recess. The meeting was called back to order at 7:27pm.

Scott Manchuso suggested the CPC bring each of the project applications forward for immediate action/vote or place a hold to determine if there were any projects that may require limited or no additional deliberation. Of the eight project applications being considered the only application not placed on "hold" was the Open Space and Recreation Plan application.

Barry Kassler noted that \$667,665 was the funding request total of all eight project applications before the CPC for consideration. Barry indicated his conservative estimate is that about \$800,000 will be available to fund recommended projects.

Barry Kassler asked CPC to consider the Cowell project. Steve Langley asked CPC members to deliberate on the Rice Recreation Complex playground proposal before considering other projects as it is the largest funding request.

There was consensus that the Rice Playground proposal is supported by CPC members however, Barry Kassler will send a letter to Recreation Director Jeff Plympton requesting three quotes for comparable playgrounds be solicited. The letter would also advise that it appears there may be a math error in the budget submitted with the CPC application.

Steve Langley made a motion to set aside \$445,315 to be allocated for the Rice Playground project provided that three quotes are provided to CPC.(or documentation of no bid provided), seconded. Vote 8:1 motion approved, Leo Immonen voted in opposition.

Chuck Woodhams made a motion to recommend the town consider bonding the Rice Playground project. Chuck suggested this would allow for funding to remain available should a high cost project be submitted and supported by CPC in the near future. Seconded, Vote: 7:2 motion approved. Mark Cuddy and Leo Immonen voted in opposition.

Barry Kassler asked CPC members to consider the funding application for Gilly's House. The project was submitted under the CPA category of Historical and Housing. The application did not receive the endorsement of the Historical Commission or the Housing Commission. It was noted that endorsement by these town commissions represents only one of the criteria for funding to be supported and does not disqualify a project from being recommended. There was consensus that the programming being

provided by Gilly's house was needed and valued. There was concern expressed about funding a project that was not endorsed as a priority of the Historical Commission. There was concern that the current use does not appear to meet the eligibility of CPA guidelines as a Housing project. Mark Cuddy made a motion not to approve the project funding application for Gilly's house, seconded, Vote: 7:2 motion approved, Leo Immonen and Scott Manchuso voted in opposition.

Barry Kassler ask CPC members to consider the Housing Authority application for funding. The Housing Authority requested \$16,000 for two fences to be replaced at Bennett Gardens and at New Emerald Lane; \$3,000 for the Bennett Garden Gazebo to be repaired and \$1,000 to replace Basketball hoops at Emerald Lane. Committee members did not support the \$3,000 Gazebo repair that was part of the \$20,000 request noting it did not seem to meet CPA eligibility guidelines. A motion was made by Steve Langley to recommend \$17,000 in funding for the Housing Authority project to be used toward fence and basketball hoop replacement at Emerald Lane, seconded. Vote: 7:2 motion approved, Leo Immonen and Chuck Woodhams voted in opposition.

Steve Langley made a motion to adjourn the CPC meeting at 9:10pm. Seconded, Vote: unanimously approved.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday August 28th 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at Bennett Gardens.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Robin McDonald