

Community Preservation Committee

Minutes

June 18, 2019

Members Present: Barbara Silberman, Co-chair, Catherine Schlichte, Co-chair, Hank McCarl, Ellen Preston, Bob Whitmarsh, Pamela Tobey, John Feener, and Heidi Wakeman

Absent: Karen Carter.

Members of the public: JD MacEachern.

Staff: Jaimie Corliss.

Meeting called to order 6:03 PM by Catherine S. Members introduced themselves to those in attendance.

Agenda items taken out of order.

Item #2 2019 Presentations

Generous Gardeners – Rosemary Lundberg and Hazel Watkinson gave a brief presentation on the Generous Gardener's 2019 CPA application to restore the Betty Smith Garden located at Stage Fort Park/Stacy Boulevard. They highlighted that the organization has at least 50 active volunteers and was started in 2012 to care for open spaces around Gloucester. To date, they have restored over 30 gardens across the City. They are now responsible for the Betty Smith Garden and sculpture. They are requesting \$13,000 in assistance from the CPC. The funding request will go towards partial cost of perennial planting, full cost of two teak benches, restoration of sign, renovation of sculpture, as well as, ongoing maintenance. The remaining necessary funds will be generated from other sources, such as the garden tours. They have applied for a grant from the Bruce J. Anderson foundation. Sick trees have already been removed. John F. pointed out that work was done without a permit from the conservation commission. Hazel W. stated the trees will be replaced and provided another copy of the landscape plan to the Committee. Barbara S. asked if they knew the square footage of the garden and for further clarification on the funding. Hazel W. stated that some funding has already been apportioned to this project from the Generous Gardeners budget, which represents the difference between the previously mentioned grant funds and the CPC request. There was discussion related to the picture garden located adjacent to the Betty Smith Garden. Barbara S. asked when they anticipate work beginning. Rosemary L. stated work has begun with an anticipated completion date of November. Hazel W. added that perennial plantings will need to go in now to bloom next spring. John F. expressed his concerns with the planting of trees without a conservation permit. There was further discussion related to what is eligible. There was discussion relating to which category this project would be eligible for, it was determined to be open space. **ACTION ITEMS:** provide square footage of garden, provide estimates, and provide qualifications of who will be restoring the statue.

Item #3 Discussion of 2019 Applications

Hammonds Castle – Have secured funding for a little over 50% of project. Will need to provide bids. **ACTION ITEM:** schedule site visit.

Beauport – Ellen P. asked how often they come for funding. Barbara S. stated they come regularly, but this building will never stop needing support. There was discussion regarding how well performing this organization has been every year they receive funding. Hank M. stated this is the most popular Historic New England property. Heidi W. added that they are free for Gloucester residents. **ACTION ITEMS:** request project list from winning bidder and schedule site visit.

Magnolia Historical Society – Hank M. asked if we have any further information regarding their long term viability as an organization. Still need list of committee members/board, operating budget, and bids. There was discussion about the public good that this project serves. John F. stated it appears they have put in the work to get their act together. **ACTION ITEM:** schedule site visit.

Ocean Alliance – John F. stated this organization is a good example of putting money to work for the community. **ACTION ITEM:** schedule site visit.

SF Cannons – Catherine S. reported back on the \$10,000 of the City budget that was allocated for cannon maintenance. She stated that it has been returned to the General fund bottom line, but the Mayor's office is still committed to have the funds available. There was discussion regarding how the archeological study impacts the cannon restoration and the ongoing maintenance costs. The Committee discussed including in the contract the requirement that the cannon base be inspected/reviewed when the cannon is off its base. Bob W. stated that the Historical Commission has been discussing the need for a second phase archeological survey. There was discussion regarding referring aspects of this project to the Historic Commission or requesting guidance on conditions of grant. Catherine S. asked if we have the qualifications of the person performing the restoration. Barbara S. stated that we do, they have received approval from Fort Sumter.

SF Landscape Design – There was discussion regarding the Off-cycle landscape design plan to see if they could expand the plan to connect the paved walkway from the boulevard to the fort. **ACTION ITEM:** schedule site visit.

Young Legends Street Hockey – Committee agreed they had a good presentation and appear to be community oriented. Barbara S. stated it would be valuable to have what their strategy has been to accomplish their goals in order to publish for other organizations. John F. stated in discussing the tiles, the more expensive tiles will also be more versatile. There was further discussion regarding the expertise of those installing the rink. Request proof of liability insurance with contract.

Camp Spindrift – Catherine S. will be meeting with Tim Flaherty next week to discuss the items being requested for funding, which may change their request. **ACTION ITEM:** schedule site visit.

New Facility – There was discussion regarding the need for a revised budget to be submitted indicating the specific areas CPA funds will support.

Item #1 Approval of minutes for April 23

MOTION: John F. moved to approve minutes for April 23, 2019 as written. Seconded by Barbara S. 8 in favor; 0 opposed; 0 abstained. Motion passes.

MOTION: John F. moved to postpone approval of minutes for May 21, 2019 until next meeting. Seconded by Barbara S. 8 in favor; 0 opposed; 0 abstained. Motion passes.

Next meeting – July 16th

MOTION: Heidi W. moved to adjourn. Seconded by Barbara S. 8 in favor; 0 opposed; 0 abstained. Motion passes.

Meeting adjourned at 7:28PM.

Documents Reviewed:

Respectfully submitted,

Jaimie Corliss