Community Preservation Committee

Minutes March 29, 2022

Members Present: Kerry McKenna, Jennifer-Lee Levitz Aronson, Bill Cuff, Hank McCarl, Bob Whitmarsh, Robert Gulla, Mark Poulin, Matt Lundberg and Harry Hoglander.

Public hearing called to order at 6:04 PM by Matt L. Attendance taken by roll call. All members present.

Item #1 Approval of Minutes 3/15/2022

Matt L. asked if Committee members had any notes or corrections. Changes submitted by Bill C. and Kerry M. Hank M.. moved to approve the 3/15/22 minutes as updated, Bob W. seconded. Minutes were approved 8 in favor, 1 abstained (Harry). Matt L. agreed to take minutes for this meeting.

Item #2 Review Five 2022 Eligibility Applications deferred from 3/15 meeting

At our 3/15/22 meeting the CPC deferred eligibility decisions on five of the 21 applications we had received for the 2022 funding cycle. We picked up discussion and voted on each of these and their eligibility to proceed to the full application phase.

Blackburn Circle Wildflower Meadow Conversion. To qualify as an open space project the land the project is on must be deed restricted open space. It can't be municipal land unless a deed restriction is placed on it, and it definitely cannot be part of a transportation corridor. Blackburn Circle is owned by MassDOT and is part of the Route 128 corridor. The applicant is welcome to pursue the project with MassDOT and Gloucester DPW approval - similar to what Generous Gardeners has done with Grant Circle - they just can't use CPA funds to do it.. On a motion by Bill C, seconded by Hank M, the Community Preservation Committee voted 0 in favor, 9 opposed, that the Blackburn Circle Wildflower Meadow Conversion project is eligible for funding as an Open Space project from the Massachusetts Community Preservation Act. Project is found ineligible for CPA funding.

Manship Artists Residency Design. This project (and any project designated as an Historic Preservation project) must be in the MA State Register of Historic Places. If it's not, it can still be eligible if the Gloucester Historical Commission recognizes it as historically significant. If the applicant can get this done before final application decisions are made in September then it will be eligible.. On a motion by Bill C, seconded by Hank M, the Community Preservation Committee voted 8 in favor, 1 abstained (Harry) that the Manship Artists Residency Design project is eligible for funding from the Massachusetts Community Preservation Act.

Manship Grounds and Facilities Renovation. The discussion on the previous project was extended here, only to ensure that the applicant makes the distinction between their two submissions more clear, or combines them into one project. On a motion by Bill C, seconded by Hank M, the Community Preservation Committee voted 8 in favor, 1 abstained (Harry) that the Manship Grounds and Facilities project is eligible for funding from the Massachusetts Community Preservation Act.

Waterfront Resiliency Survey. Kerry and Matt reported on a site visit with Maritime Gloucester Exec. Dir. Michael De Koster, who clarified what this project entails. It's essential that the applicant get a statement from the Gloucester Historical Commission on the historical significance of their building as separate from the railway. On a motion by Bill C, seconded by Hank M, the Community Preservation Committee voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed that the Waterfront Resiliency Survey project is eligible for funding from the Massachusetts Community Preservation Act.

Renovate Nate Ross Baseball Field. Matt reported the opinion of CP Coalition Exec. Dir. Stuart Saginor that this project does qualify under restoration and rehabilition. Mark reported that the field is protected as Massachusetts Article 97. Applicants Rory Gentile and Ryan Marks spoke to answer questions. Mary Ann Boucher spoke on behalf of the project. On a motion by Bill C, seconded by Hank M, the Community Preservation Committee voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed that the Renovate Nate Ross Baseball Field project is eligible for funding from the Massachusetts Community Preservation Act.

Item #3 Applicant liaison committee assignments

The final list of eligible projects was reviewed and a committee member assigned to each one to be the primary liaison between the applicant and the CPC. Matt will distribute a list of these assignments.

Item #4 CPC officer change

Matt began a discussion to change from the CPC's current officer structure of two cochairs to instead name a chair and a vice chair. A motion was made to retire the position of co-chair and create the position of vice-chair. Bill asked whether we would then need to create a chair position as well. It was agreed that this needs more thought and discussion. The motion was rescinded, and the committee agreed to take up the discussion at our next meeting.

Item #5 Next Meeting - April 19, 2022

A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:11pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Lundberg