

## Community Preservation Committee Meeting Notes for August 23, 2011

Members present: JJ Bell, Steven Phillips, Sandra Dahl-Ronan, Bill Dugan, Daniel Morris, Tom O'Keefe, Scott Smith, Karen Gallagher, and Stacy Randell

Staff: Debbie Laurie, Senior Project Manager

1. Mr. O'Keefe moved to accept the minutes, without amendment, from the meeting held August 10, 2011, Mr. Bell seconded and the CPC unanimously passed the motion.

2. The Magnolia Historical Society has revised its proposal for configuring its current museum space. Some CPC members expressed concern about funding the project, since the Society is planning to purchase a new facility for its collection.

3. Mr. Bell, Ms. Dahl-Ronan, and Ms. Laurie met with attorney Susan Egan to review the planned motions that may be considered at this meeting. Some edits were made to the draft motions that had been previously circulated. The primary issue was the Essex County Greenbelt's request for funds to purchase the Bray Street property. Per the advice of Ms. Egan, the project is now cast as a preservation project. A conservation easement will be needed, but no appraisal of the easement will be required. The terms of the easement will list the City of Gloucester or its designee as the steward of the easement. This allows an interested and qualified organization to monitor any conservation restrictions on behalf of the City.

4. Before seeking motions from the members on funding alternatives, there was some discussion of how the CPC should recommend to the Council and the City which parts of the CP fund to utilize for each approved project. Rather than specifying the fund for each project separately, the CPC agreed that a single motion should address the matter for all of the approved projects.

5. The follow motions were heard and considered by the CPC.

a. \$86,453. to the Gloucester Housing Authority toward the Sheedy Building roof replacement in order to preserve community housing. Motion: Mr. Dugan. Second: Ms. Randell. No discussion. Vote: 9 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining.

b. \$25,000. to the Cape Ann Museum toward the leaded glass window replacement at the 1710 White Ellery House in order to restore an historic resource. Motion: Ms. Randell. Second: Mr. Dugan. No discussion. Vote: 8 in favor, 0 opposed, and Mr. Bell abstaining.

c. \$25,000. to the Gloucester Adventure toward the purchase and installation of 5 spars in order to restore an historic resource. Motion: Ms. Gallagher. Second: Ms. Randell. No discussion. Vote: 8 in favor, 1 opposed, and 0 abstaining.

d. \$20,000. to the Phyllis A. Marine Association toward the hull and mast restoration in order to restore an historic resource. Motion: Mr. Phillips. Second: Mr. O'Keefe. Mr. Morris explained his opposition to the project. Other members supporting the project expressed their interest in ensuring the funding went first to preserving the vessel's hull. Vote: 7 in favor, 2 opposed, and 0 abstaining.

e. \$15,000. to the City of Gloucester Committee for the Arts toward the restoration of the WPA murals in the first floor common areas of City Hall in order to preserve an historic resource. Motion: Mr. Smith. Second: Mr. Morris. No discussion. Vote: 9 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining.

f. \$10,000. to the Magnolia Historical Society toward the digitization of their archives in order to preserve an historic resource. Motion: Mr. Bell. Second: Ms. Dahl-Ronan. Members restated their interested in ensuring the award is made on the condition that the archive quality scanner/copier be made available to other organizations in the City and that equipment receive only certified service. Vote: 9 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining.

g. \$15,000 to the Sargent House Museum toward the restoration of their Main Street fence in order to restore an historic resource. Motion: Ms. Dahl-Ronan. Second: Mr. O'Keefe. No discussion. Vote: 8 in favor, 1 opposed, and 0 abstaining.

h. \$75,000 to The Sawyer Free Library toward ADA code compliant accessibility improvements on the exterior of the library complex, which includes the 1764 Saunders House, in order to rehabilitate an historic resource. Motion: Mr. Dugan. Second: Ms. Randell. No discussion. Vote: 8 in favor, 1 opposed, and 0 abstaining.

i. \$15,000. to the City of Gloucester Community Development Department toward legal work and a conservation easement in connection with the restoration of the wildlife habitat for the Little River in West Gloucester in order to protect and preserve open space. Motion: Mr. O'Keefe. Second: Mr. Dugan. No discussion. Vote: 9 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining.

j. \$120,000. to the Essex County Greenbelt Association toward their purchase of the 6.75 acres Tompson Street Gateway site in West Gloucester in order to preserve open space, upon the condition that The Essex County Greenbelt Association conveys a conservation restriction to the City Of Gloucester or its designee. Motion: Mr. Morris. Second: Ms. Dahl-Ronan. No discussion. Vote: 9 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining.

k. The CPC will not support or recommend funding for the following projects:

1. Gloucester Housing Authority, Cape Ann Home Ownership
2. Magnolia Historical Society Museum Restoration
3. Richard Jabb, Assessment of plaques at City historic sites
4. Community Development Department, Property appraisal in Dogtown/North Gloucester woods.

5. Department of Public Works, Watershed protection planning.  
Motion: Ms. Gallagher. Second: Ms. Dahl-Ronan. No discussion. Vote: 9 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining.

1. The CPC recommends that for all Round 2 CP project awards, funds that are in the respective category reserves from all available years be expended in their entirety prior to utilizing any funds from the general CP reserve. Motion: Ms. Gallagher. Second: Ms. Dahl-Ronan. No discussion. Vote: 9 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining.

6. The next step is for the approved motions to be forwarded to the Mayor for consideration. Ms. Laurie will draft a letter to that effect. The CPC co-chairs will contact Council Curcuro and members of the Budget and Finance Committee to inform them of the CPC's progress.

7. The next meeting is slated for Tuesday, September 20, 2011, in City Hall at 6:00 p.m.

6. Mr. Dugan moved to adjourn the meeting at around 6:40 p.m., Ms. Dahl-Ronan seconded, and CPC unanimously passed the motion.