

**Community Preservation Committee
Meeting Report for December 18, 2012
Gloucester Community Preservation Committee**

Committee Meeting Report for December 18, 2012

Members attending: J.J. Bell, Sandy Dahl Ronan, Bill Dugan, Rob Gulla, Stacy Randell, Scott Smith, Tom O'Keefe, Charles Crowley, Karen Gallagher

Staff: Debbie Laurie, Community Development Staff

Others: Denton Crews, FOGH, Paul McGeary, City Councilor

1. The meeting began at 6:00Pm. Tom O'Keefe moved to adopt the minutes of the meeting held on November 20, 2012. Rob Gulla seconded, and the committee unanimously approved the motion.
2. Deb Laurie reported on the status of Round 3. The City Council approved all eight (8) recommended projects. There were seven (7) councilors present at that meeting. Seven (7) projects passed 7-0; the Good Harbor Gateway Project passed 6-1. Two weeks later the Newell Stadium project, which is the 9th one passed 9-0. Ms. Laurie is working on the award contracts for all of them.
3. Denton Crews and Paul McGeary gave a status update on the FOGH project. Mr. Crews said it should not be a surprise that they did not receive the State LAND GRANT, because the State has a history of giving money for larger parcels with trails. He talked about a Plan B. This included a meeting that Bruce Tarr and Paul McGeary are hosting for about 35 people on Friday, Dec.21st, addressing the question, "How do we get this done?". It also included listing every State and Federal opportunity out there that could be accessed before June 2013. Another possibility would be if the owners could come down on the price, and finally if more individuals could step up with more money. Charlie Crowley said he was troubled by extending the time for FOGH to get funding. His understanding was that if the land grant did not come through, we would not continue to keep the award available. Denton's understanding was that they have until June. Rob also remembered that Paul had said that they would probably come to us and release us from our support of the project. It is in our notes that they do have until June 30, 2013. J.J. Bell is OK with being somewhat patient to see what comes out of FOGH efforts with Bruce Tarr, since Round 4 did not start until March 15 and Newell Stadium financing was probably not immediate, provided FOGH keeps in close communication with CPC regarding their progress. Denton answered a question from Rob Gulla as to whether they would come back in the next round. Denton replied that they would not come back, unless there was a huge political ground swell favoring this. Karen Gallagher stated that we need an update if the P&S expires. J.J. Bell stated that we need to keep close communication. Bill Dugan expressed that it is important for them to find out what opportunities are out here. Charlie Crowley stated that although the sooner we know if

they will release us from our commitment the better, since one of our major principles is to leverage our money if a State or Federal grant becomes available we should work with it. Denton, finally, talked about Greenbelt managing the Conservation Restriction.

4. Ms. Laurie distributed the chart Status of 2010 Community Preservation Committee Awards. The following are some of the key points discussed:
 - a. Wostrel Environmental Adventure Center will finish in Spring 2013.
 - b. City Hall – as of 12-18-12 project about 95% completed
 - c. Gloucester Unitarian Universalist Church – as of 12-18-12 state inspection for lift to take place on Dec. 20th; plans in process for open house with Mayor & Cmte members will be invited - good PR.
 - d. 10 Taylor Street – as of 12-18-12, final report & payment has been made. In process of selling units; two buyers are in the P&S stage; handicap unit is being marketed further

5. Ms. Laurie distributed copies of the chart Status of 2011 Community Preservation Committee Awards: The following are some of the key points of the discussion on the projects:
 - a. Sheedy Park Roof Replacement – as of 12-18-12, minor inspection issues on new roof HVAC which is delaying close out. Hope to resolve by mid January
 - b. WPA Murals – Work should be starting shortly, as of 12-18-12
 - c. Magnolia Historical Society – as of 12-18-12 no final report received for archival project
 - d. Sargent House fence replacement – letter sent to cancel project, encouraged to reapply next round and memo sent to Kenny to return funds to original allocation of “unrestricted reserve”
 - e. Sawyer Free Library- no quarterly report

6. Report on CPA Conference. Bill Dugan, Deb Laurie, and Sandy Ronan attended the Conference.

Mr. Dugan sent a summary from his experience to the committee earlier. Ms. Laurie reported on Conservation workshops she attended, which included information on bio maps of Gloucester, The Trust for Public Land can act as facilitators for different projects, and that there always needs to be a 3rd party holding a Conservation Restriction. Ms. Ronan shared the main point from a Housing workshop she attended is the importance of taking good needs assessments before committing to a project. The major point from a roundtable discussion was that all of CPA projects need to have restriction documents on file particularly before any State grants are given. All power points from the Conference will be on the Coalition’s website.

7. January 17th public meeting will be held at Sawyer Free Library. Both Mr. Crowley and Mr. Smith talked about the importance of knowing the community’s goals regarding recreation; of looking at the open space and recreation plans and asking people for their ideas.
8. Public Relations – Ms. Randell will write another My View. Ms. Ronan will contact the papers and Good Morning Gloucester.

9. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Documents used during the meeting:

1. FOGH update, December 13, 2012
2. McGinley Kalsow & Associates, Inc. Remaining Work and Projected Schedule – Dec. 2012 Gloucester City Hall
3. Status of 2010 Community Preservation Community Awards
4. Status of 2011 Community Preservation Community Awards
5. Chart from Community Preservation Coalition – Qualifying Historic Projects for CPA Funding

Submitted by:

Sandra Dahl Ronan

Co-chair of CPC