

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES FOR CPC MEETING
MAY 21, 2013, 6:00 PM
CITY HALL, 3RD FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

Present: J.J. Bell, Sandy Dahl Ronan, Co-Chairs; Bill Dugan, Tom O'Keefe, Scott Smith, Charles Crowley, and John Feener

Absent: Stacy Randell, Karen Gallagher

Also present: Debbie Laurie

1. Approval of minutes from May 7, 2013 meeting tabled. Minutes will be prepared and approved at the next meeting.
2. Representatives of the Magnolia Bike Club, John Bertolino and Chris Pester, presented the committee with additional information on their application for funds to build a bike pump track at Magnolia Woods.

The committee questioned whether the project was adequately defined to qualify for a grant in this fiscal cycle or whether it might be better to reapply next year. The idea was floated and discussed to consider a smaller seed grant this year to be used to fund some preliminary site, design and engineering work. Alternately, the idea of funding the whole grant this cycle, with specific performance goals and timelines was discussed. Additional discussion focused on the proposed site and wetlands concerns. The committee focused on how these wetlands and the required permitting process might affect the projects timeline and cost.

3. Deb Laurie presented reports on follow-up questions the committee had on 2013 grant applications. See attached report prepared by Deb Laurie. The committee reviewed the report and made the following comments and requests:

Magnolia Historical Society-

The committee requested the applicant obtain another bid for the heat/ac system and provide additional information on the proposed electrical work.

Matto's Field-

The committee discussed the possibility of other users funding some of the proposed work or additional work at Matto's field. Sandy Dahl Ronan informed the committee that the GFAA might cost-share some of the project at Matto's field. JJ Bell proposed that DPW do some minor repairs and repainting of the backstop. Ongoing maintenance concern and the contributions of all user groups was discussed.

Skate Park-

The committee discussed the need to be specific as to the in-kind contributions of the DPW. Charles Crowley reported on discussions with Mike Asaro who has been representing the park users. Mike Asaro was pleased with the revised application the committee received from Mark Cole (DPW), and confirmed that it reflected the concerns of park users.

4. JJ Bell reported on discussions with Ed Becker at Essex County Greenbelt Association on their application to purchase the “Norcross Parcel”. Ed Becker confirmed that ECGA would still be able to purchase the property if the committee reduced the grant award to \$100,000. The committee requested additional information on the classification of the grant application as for “preservation”.

5. JJ Bell presented the committee with an account summary of the City Hall project. Highlighted in the report was the Bananas fundraiser that raised \$40,000. JJ Bell presented further information on the 2013 grant application to repair additional windows in City Hall. He pointed out that it would be much more efficient to at least complete four more windows in the auditorium while the contractor is onsite and the staging up. The cost of the windows is estimated to be \$12,000 each or a total of \$48,000. JJ Bell explained that the city had found a “surplus” account for window repair that contained \$12,000. He then asked the committee to consider funding the City Hall window grant application at \$36,000.

6. The committee took a first non-binding straw poll vote on all 2013 grant applications. The results will be circulated to the committee for discussion at the next meeting.

7. The date for the next committee meeting was set for June 11, 2013 at 6pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8pm.

Documents included:

Report follow-up questions on 2013 grant applications (Deb Laurie)

Report on City Hall expenditures

Respectfully submitted by

Charles Crowley