

**Gloucester Community Preservation Committee**

Committee Meeting Report for May 26, 2010

Members attending: Stacy Randell, J.J. Bell, Sandy Dahl-Ronan, John Feener, Karen Gallagher, Dan Morris, Scott Smith, Bill Dugan, Ian Lane

Members absent:

Staff: Matt Lustig, Community Development Staff

1. Minutes (version 2, corrected prior to the meeting based on comments submitted by e-mail) from the CPC meeting held on April 28, 2010, were accepted unanimously and without further amendment. Moved, Ms. Dahl-Ronan; seconded, Mr. Dugan.
2. Mr Lustig reported that the budget for community preservation funds is “good to go”.
3. Several members discussed recent outreach efforts, including ward meetings, a chamber of commerce board of directors’ luncheon, a Rotary meeting, and the Lanesville Community Center meeting.

Mr. Lane took down several questions at the Lanesville meeting and with Mr. Lustig’s help, provided responses. Questions regarded use of the CP funds for making bathrooms handicap accessible, developing a soccer field, and preserving Lanesville history.

Mr. Dugan spoke to the Chamber of Commerce and fielded questions about the possibility of an after the fact CP award to support preservation of the library and whether a CP award prompts a requirement to pay prevailing wages for labor.

Mr. Bell spoke at a Ward 1 meeting. Also, in the days prior to the deadline for submission of the eligibility form, Mr. Lustig and members responded to questions from Jean Gallo about the Fisherman’s Wives statue, Jerry Ackerman regarding the Universalist Unitarian Church, and advocates for a leash-free dog park.

4. Mr. Lustig reviewed a summary of the eligibility forms received to date and the CPC knocked around ideas prompted by the project descriptions and the funding situations they represent.
  - In order to provide prompt feedback to proponents, the basic eligibility determination will be made by the co-chairs and Mr. Lustig. Some project descriptions may prompt consultation with the City legal counsel regarding eligibility.
  - Mr. Lustig will scan all of the eligibility forms and e-mail them to the members.
  - How firm is the deadline? After some discussion the CPC stated that the submissions must be delivered or postmarked by the deadline date. Also, the submitted documents must be substantially complete. The CPC will not accept a note about a forthcoming proposal as a placeholder to meet the deadline.
  - Mr. Bell, as advised by state ethics counsel, will abstain from discussion of the eligibility form submitted by the Cape Ann Museum. Since his work on the City Hall Restoration Committee is in the public interest, he is permitted to participate when the City Hall proposal is discussed.

- The proposal process will likely involve iterations of review and revision to ensure proposals are approvable and responsive to the requirements of the Act. The CPC expects to work with applicants, rather than accepting or rejecting all proposals based on the initial submission.
  - Community Development Director, Sarah Garcia will be invited to attend the next CPC meeting to discuss bonding scenarios.
  - Use of CP funding for historic preservation may obligate a property owner to certain constraints in the future replacement work performed on the property.
  - Can CP funds be awarded to preserve private property? Only if there is a demonstrable public benefit derived from the property. That benefit could be in terms of public use or aesthetics.
5. The CPC discussed ideas for how members will review and score proposals. Mr. Lustig will consult with the CP Coalition and other communities and will draft a basic process for the CPC to consider. Ms. Randell suggested that the all members read all of the proposals, but also that each member become the expert for a share of the proposals.
6. The next meeting of the CPC will be on June 23 at 7:00 p.m.
7. The meeting adjourned around 8:30 p.m. on Mr. Feener's motion, Ms. Dahl-Ronan's second, and the CPC's unanimous consent.