

**TOWN OF STOW**  
**Community Preservation Committee**

**Minutes, February 25, 2019, Amended**

**Community Preservation Committee Meeting**

*Community Preservation Committee members present:* Vin Antil (chair), Cortni Frecha (vice chair), Bob Larkin, Andy Crosby, Mike Busch, Bill Byron, Atli Thorarensen

*Members not present:* John Colonna-Romano

*Additional Attendee:* Jim Salvie

*Admin. Assistant:* Krista Bracci

The meeting began with a quorum at 7:30 pm (Mike arrived at 7:34 pm)

**MINUTES**

**VOTE:** Bob made a motion to approve the minutes of February 11, 2019, Vin seconded. The vote was unanimous.

**INVOICES**

**VOTE:** Bob made a motion to approve an invoice for \$59.02 from W.B. Mason (Administrative funds – Supplies Account), Cortni seconded. The vote was unanimous.

**DEB SEITH'S CPC HOURS**

**VOTE:** Bob made a motion to approve CPC hours for Deb Seith in the amount of \$116.69 (She covered a meeting for Krista – Admin funds/Salary Acct), Cortni seconded. The vote was unanimous.

**DISCUSSION ON BROOKSIDE AVENUE PROJECT PROPOSAL**

At the last CPC meeting it was mentioned this project request totaled \$33,800 (\$18,800 for the wall restoration and \$15,000 for the tree removal). Members are on board with utilizing CPC funds to pay for the restoration of the wall only, the \$18,800 portion. They suggested increasing the approved amount just in case anything unexpected comes up. They also stressed that the wall cannot be fixed until GH obtains outside funds to shore up the slope. A majority of the members feel that there is not a dire need to repair the wall right now and that GH has some time to work out the procurement for the other portion of this project.

**Member Comments** (prior to the vote):

- Vin reported that the Open Space Committee does not feel that the wall has anything to do with them.
- Andy reiterated that the Historical Commission felt the wall is historic (maybe dates around 1840) and suggests that we move forward in paying for the restoration of the wall, not the slope.

- Mike pointed out that the power company will need to be involved with this project and that the area around the shed is a maintenance issue and not a CPC issue.
- Cortni wanted to make sure we gave GH credit for trying to fix the wall before it became much more expensive to repair. She also noted that the wall is affected by the deterioration of the slope behind it.
- Jim had a few questions regarding the project that the members answered for him. He felt pretty sure that GH would have no issue getting the other funding needed for this project.

**VOTE:** Cortni made a motion to approve up to \$25,000 for the restoration only of the stone wall at Brookside Cemetery per GH's request, contingent on the stabilization of the slope and procurement of funding elsewhere for the slope stabilization and tree removal, Mike seconded. The vote was unanimous.

**Action Items:**

Krista will email GH with the committee's decision and draft up a warrant article for the March 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. **Note:** She will need to hear back from GH that he has the other funding piece all set before having the warrant article approved and submitted to the Board of Selectman's office.

**TRACK ROAD PROJECT DISCUSSION**

The committee discussed the pros and cons regarding rescinding the article this Spring or in the Fall. Jim Salvie suggested that the committee vote to rescind in the fall so that the Complete Streets Committee has a bit more time to develop their plan for Track Road (it also will give them a deadline). He also mentioned it may be easier for the Town to see that the money is being repurposed instead of asking for new funds. Complete Streets still has a number of things to iron out like alternatives to paving, who can use Track Road, and who will maintain it. Atli feels that the project should be rescinded in the Spring. Bill is not sold on the idea that this project falls under Complete Streets. Jim explained that it does because they work on public safety, bike paths, pedestrian areas, etc. Jim also stated that this is not something the State would fund.

**VOTE:** Atli made a motion to rescind the Track Road Article (\$46,000) in the Fall of 2019 if at that time the Complete Streets Committee is not ready to present the repurposing of the funds, Mike seconded. The vote was unanimous.

**Action Items:**

Jim Salvie will inform the Complete Streets Committee of the CPC decision.

**DEED RESTRICTION PROJECT DISCUSSION**

The members were in agreement to leave this project open for now. Cortni is going to work with Jim Salvie to see if they can meet with Kate Hogan. They would like Kate to advocate for them. The hope is to get a meeting with the DHCD. The Stow COA will need to also be contacted to see if they have any interest in administering this project. Bill is pretty certain the COA will not be interested in administering the project. Cortni mentioned that SMAHT has no interest in administering the project based on her extensive correspondence with Laura Spear last year. It was her feeling that SMAHT is only interested in creating new units that count toward the SHI.

This project could be wonderful for Stow. It would allow seniors to remain in their homes. Atli did mention that the articles would need to be amended due to the original \$50,000 being too low for the current year. Bob added that Bedford tried to have the same type of program, but failed with the DHCD. Cortni will report back to the CPC after they reach out to Kate Hogan and the COA.

### **CONSENT CALENDAR WARRANT ARTICLES – ATM 2019**

**VOTE:** Bob made a motion to place the Community Preservation Expenses article (\$40,000) on the warrant and to endorse the article to the 2019 annual town meeting, Cortni seconded. The vote was unanimous.

**VOTE:** Bob made a motion to place the Community Preservation Reserves article (\$100,000 for each bucket) on the warrant and to endorse the article to the 2019 annual town meeting, Cortni seconded. The vote was unanimous.

**VOTE:** Bob made a motion to place the Community Preservation Adjustment article (FY2019, additional \$4,350 in each bucket) on the warrant and to endorse the article to the 2019 annual town meeting, Cortni seconded. The vote was unanimous.

### **PROJECT UPDATES (based on 2/11/19 minutes)**

#### **Library Design Account:**

Krista informed the members that she has requested that the library design account be closed at the end of the fiscal year. This account was approved at the Annual Town Meeting in May of 2016 for the amount of \$25,000. Craig Martin no longer needs these funds since the library project is now complete. All the funds not spent will be returned to the historic reserve account.

#### **NEWS & VIEWS**

None were discussed.

### **MEETING SCHEDULE**

March 11th

Cortni made a motion to adjourn at 8:51 pm, Mike seconded, and the vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted by: Krista Bracci