

TOWN OF STOW
Community Preservation Committee

Minutes, March 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, John Colonna-Romano

Admin. Assistant: Krista Bracci

The meeting began with a quorum at 7:35 pm

MINUTES

VOTE: Bob made a motion to approve the minutes of February 25, 2019 as amended, Atli seconded. The vote was 7 – 0 with John abstaining.

INVOICES

VOTE: Bob made a motion to approve an invoice for \$47.65 for Krista Bracci (Administrative funds – Supplies Account), Cortni seconded. The vote was unanimous.

CPC SIGN DISCUSSION

Atli requested this discussion be added to the agenda. He feels that we need to actively promote CPC projects so that the residents in Stow can see where their tax money is going. It is even more crucial right now since the first round match was estimated at only 11%. He suggested that when a project is complete a more permanent sign needs to be visible, but until then our sign will suffice. The CPC needs to be more proactive with their advertising.

Member Comments:

- It should be noted on the project application that when the project is complete the committee requesting CPA funding should be responsible for putting up a permanent sign giving the CPC credit for the project.
- For projects already completed we could use Administrative Funds to pay for those permanent signs.
- We should provide guidelines on what the sign should say and potentially require the CPC to approve the sign before it is put up.
- There was some discussion on if we should have a formal policy regarding signage. For example, how long a sign should be up and what sign should be used.

Action Items:

- Krista will take down one of the two signs at the Library in mid April (front of building) if the Library has an article in the May 2019 warrant. This will eliminate any confusion about who is

funding the new project. The sign at near the old part of the library can remain up since that work was done with CPA funding.

- Andy is going to reach out to the library and see if they are willing to purchase a sign credited the CPC for the work down on the second floor. He will report back to the committee at a future meeting.

TOWN MEETING DISCUSSION

Krista informed the committee that she and Vin are not needed at the STOWS meeting this year. She also mentioned that Vin will speak at the Town Meeting if questions arise about the consent calendar articles or the adjustment article. Cortni mentioned she will be at the Town Meeting in case she is needed.

PROJECT UPDATES

Town Center Park (323 Great Road)

A member informed everyone that work has started.

Town Hall

Mike was concerned about something he heard regarding the Town Hall's renovation. He heard that some individuals assume it will be paid entirely by CPA funds. Cortni suggested we wait to hear the project proposal before speculating.

Deed Restriction Program

Cortni informed everyone that she had a discussion with the COA Director and the Town Social Worker recently. Both were supportive of the program and felt they could help in determining a candidate(s) that would be eligible. However, they did feel it may be hard ethically. The matter of who would administrate the program was not discussed.

iShoppe Project Proposal (Inaugural Stow Home Ownership Purchase Program)

Vin informed the members he received an email from Mike Kopczynski requested that the CPC discuss this project at a future meeting. SMAHT is requesting CPC to submit a letter stating that they are going to fund this project so that SMAHT can then be part of the down payment assistant program with the DHCD.

Background history given by Cortni:

- When she spoke to Town Council they felt this project fit within the four corners of the existing Deed Restriction warrant articles.
- Cortni reached out to Mike K and he never got back to her.
- Cortni discussed the recommendation of Town Council with Laura Spear and it was her opinion that this needed to be addressed at Town Meeting. The existing articles would need to be revised.

Mike's Question:

How is this program any different than a reversed mortgage? This project would only help a few people.

Cortni's Response:

She felt helping a few is a good thing and by utilizing this program you do not have all the fees associated with the reversed mortgage.

Action Item: Mike K will be invited to a future meeting after Town Meeting. At that time the committee would like an update on all the current projects.

VOTE: Cortni made a motion that there should be annual reporting for all open projects or funds, Atli seconded. The vote was unanimous.

NEWS & VIEWS

Krista informed the committee that Deb helped her move offices. Deb is also going to be helping go through all the CPC files and organize them. Krista is keeping track of her hours so that the committee can authorize payment for her services out of the Administrative Account.

VOTE: Cortni made a motion to approve up to \$250 for administrative expenses signed off by Vin, John seconded. The vote was unanimous.

MEETING SCHEDULE

May 13th

Bob made a motion to adjourn at 8:45 pm, Cortni seconded, and the vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted by: Krista Bracci