



TOWN OF STOW COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Monday, February 5, 2024

Virtual Zoom Meeting

Community Preservation Committee members present:

Maureen Crawford (Chair)- Housing Authority, Vin Antil - Open Space, Liza Mattison - Conservation, John Colonna-Romano - Planning Board, Barbara Clancy - Historical, Mike Busch - Recreation, Kevin Gross - Finance Committee, Vacant position - Board of Assessors

Not in attendance: Charlie Aaronson - Council on Aging

Admin. Assistant: Nancy McManus

The meeting began with a quorum at 7:05 pm

MINUTES

7:07– **VOTE:** John made a Motion to Approve the Minutes of 1/22/24 as amended. Liza seconded the Motion. A roll call was taken, and the vote passed 7-0.

Vin Yes
Mike Yes
John Yes
Liza Yes
Barbara Yes
Kevin Yes
Maureen Yes

7:10 – **CPA Bucket Allocation**

Vin screen shared a slide with his proposed bucket distribution. The slide indicated how much was left in each bucket after the 2023 Town Meeting approved projects, the amount added in November 2023, from CPA and the amount collected from the Town.

The CPC members agreed to allocate 10% to each of the three buckets, with the remaining funds going into the unreserved bucket and 5% into administrative costs.

7:25 – **VOTE:** Mike made a Motion to recommend to the Town Meeting the following bucket distributions from the CPA funds: A total of 10% will be allocated into the Open Space, Historical and the Housing bucket. The administration bucket will be given a 5% allocation. Vin seconded the motion. A roll call was taken, and the vote passed 7-0.

Vin Yes
Mike Yes
John Yes
Liza Yes
Barbara Yes
Kevin Yes
Maureen Yes

7:35 – Discussion on Admin Funds

A question was asked in regard to the use of Admin funds. The members explained the use of the funds. The admin funds are used for small consulting expenses and project preparations. Also discussed, was the purpose of CPA funds, which are intended for construction work and not planning work. The state requirements for CPA were also discussed.

7:45 - SMHAT Application Funding

The committee members discussed the allocation of an additional \$200,000 for the Supplemental Application for Bird Meadow.

7:55 – **VOTE:** Vin made Motion to recommend to the Town Meeting, a distribute the amount of \$200,000, from the 2023 CPA Funds to the Affordable Housing bucket. This amount would fund the Supplemental Application for Bird Meadow. Mike seconded the Motion, A roll call was taken, and the vote passed 7-0.

- Vin Yes
- Mike Yes
- John Yes
- Liza Yes
- Barbara Yes
- Kevin Yes
- Maureen Yes

8:00 - Town Articles Historic Spreadsheet

Maureen led a discussion by screen sharing a spreadsheet with Town historic approved projects and the account balance information. This spreadsheet was obtained from Julie, the Town Accountant. Upon review of the spreadsheet, the committee discussed the possibility of closing some open articles, if there were still funds left. Mike offered to make notes on the spreadsheet to provide more context. The discussion ended with an acknowledgment that the spreadsheet does not include all old information due to start and end dates.

The members also discussed various projects and their associated funding, including the historic document preservation project, the cemetery mapping project, and the Conservation Commission grant. The team concluded that the library project likely had no further value and could potentially be reclaimed.

They also discussed the status of ongoing projects and financial allocations, including the Covid Emergency rental assistance, the invasive species project, and the microfiche project. The team agreed that they needed to consult with Julie, to clarify the situation.

8:30 – News and Views

Maureen made mention of an email from Stow’s Green Advisory Committee. This email this was sent to all the town committees for feedback in regard to the Town of Stow’s Climate Action Plan: Reducing Emissions. John is a member of that committee and presented a summary.

John discussed the development of a climate action plan, which is aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the town. The plan focuses on reducing emissions from home heating and passenger cars, with strategies including the conversion of fuel oil furnaces to heat pumps and the shift towards hybrid, plug-in hybrid, or electric cars. However, John noted that these changes require significant financial investment and incentives. A draft document is currently open for comments and feedback, with the final version to be

submitted to the select board for approval. The document covers buildings, transportation, energy, and natural resources. The plan's implications for other projects, such as the Bird Meadow development, were also discussed. The committee decided not to proceed with a formal process for feedback, encouraging individuals to send their comments to the Green Advisory Committee.

The next CPC meetings will be on March 4th and 18th, 2024. At the next meeting they will discuss drafting articles for the Town's Warrant, confirming the number of articles and will be sending an email to Denise for review.

8:54 **VOTE:** Vin made a Motion to adjourn, Mike seconded, the vote was unanimous, and a roll call was taken, the vote passed 7-0.

Vin	Yes
Mike	Yes
John	Yes
Liza	Yes
Barbara	Yes
Kevin	Yes
Maureen	Yes

Respectfully submitted by: Nancy McManus