

Present: Kirsten Roopenian, Dick Bell, Diane Goldberg, Sheila Stewart,
Mark Kablack, Paul Griffin, Steve Swanger

Discussion of Minutes

Approved with corrections; Sheila Stewart amended 10/15/03 minutes to reflect that she is an owner, not an abutter.

Appropriation Funding

Mark Kablack reviewed Chris Saccardi's memo regarding administration funding. The response was that administrative funds are fairly discretionary, and that the funds could be used for a variety of administrative type uses in the discretion of the CPC.

Kirsten Roopenian: What is the exposure?

Mark Kablack: The DOR as a policing authority but puts emphasis more on management of funds. Other policing controls would come from bonding, and bond counsel.

Discussion on bonding by Mark Kablack and Richard Bell.

Diane Goldberg: Confirmation of administration funds - \$45,000.

There was discussion on funding amounts and projected administration costs.

Diane Goldberg: \$20,000 under the Housing Authority proposal could be slated under administration, particularly where the project has already been put before Town Meeting.

There would be a different result if we were asked to fund a new project with admin. funds that had not been presented to Town Meeting.

Historic Commission – Revolutionary War Cemetery

Jim Hill: Joint project with the Commission and the Town Manager. They are working with the commission and a consultant to restore the cemetery. Many issues with stones being destroyed and incorrectly maintained. They are working with the Town to restore and maintain the stones in the cemetery which would take 5 seasons.

Mark Kablack: Questions about on-going maintenance. The end result would have maintenance and consulting work done with the Department of Public Works. Working with a consultant would enable a plan to be developed for future maintenance.

Mark Kablack: Is approval required by Capitol Planning Committee.

Maureen Valente: No, this is a Town asset that needs maintenance; it does not fit into required criteria; almost "park-like". The Capital Planning Committee is needed for things like acquisition of an ambulance, fire truck, etc.

Dick Bell: Does it go to bid?

Mark Kablack: The construction process would require a bid.

Jim Hill: The consultant is a specialist and the only group around in business.

Maureen Valente: Yes, it would go through the Town Manager and Town Counsel.

Kirsten Roopenian: Will the Department of Public Works be responsible for maintenance and use for future as well as other cemeteries?

Mark Kablack: Regarding Department of Public Works involvement, have they committed?

Maureen Valente: Yes, they have.

Mark Kablack: Will the project be overseen by the Historic Commission and the DPW?
Maureen Valente: Both entities would be involved.

Dick Bell: How is the project funded from year to year?

Maureen Valente: A consultant has a plan built in for one or two years; we have some flexibility built in also.

Mark Kablack: Housing example uses funds at a later time; we would like some firm start and end dates.

Jim Hill: Not sure, it depends on the consultant's availability, but they can agree that the project will start on or before the date that is 2 years from funding.

John Drobinski: Supports the project; good for the Town.

Updates

- SVT letter in support of Cutting project referenced by Mark Kablack
- Letter submitted by Mr. DePompei; Sheila Stewart recused herself.

Mark Kablack: Unsure of what Mr. DePompei hopes to accomplish. Lots 4, 5 and 9 on plan are already covered by perpetual agricultural restrictions. Density restrictions are already maximized unless zoning changes. Private restrictions restrict type of housing design and are set to expire in 2010; architectural style is not significant for CPC funds. Does the CPC want to continue with this? Mr. DePompei is not available until December 3.

Dick Bell: Would like to hear from him.

Paul Griffin: Also would like to hear from him; has questions for him.

- Time frames for projects
- Maureen Valente discussed land acquisition; how it is used. Can land be held and CPA buys land back from the Town? If it does not become a school or falls within the purview of the CPA, is the CPC interested? This may require a change in the CPA legislation.
- CPC was interested in finding out more and in the flexibility of using CPA funds

Location of Upcoming Meetings

11/5 – Town Hall

11/19 – DPW Building

12/13 – Town Hall

12/17 – Town Hall

Walkways

Jody Kablack:

- Requesting \$100,000 every other year for planning and design of walkways
- History of walkways beginning in 1969
- No money left from 1999/2000 appropriations for new walkways so CPA funds are requested

- \$100,000 is being requested to ensure DPW can do the work; they don't have sufficient staff to undertake a larger amount

Mark Kablack: Why fund under the CPA? Have they been funded through the operating budget or specific monied articles before? Why now?

Jody Kablack: The proposal is not to maintain existing walkways, those funds will come from the operating budget. The construction of new walkways was always a special monied article.

Maureen Valente: There are two issues; public safety and recreation. They are looking to connect trails and walkways. She opines it is CPA fundable but not sure.

Mark Kablack: Guidelines are that projects need to have appropriate commission support; need to talk to Park & Recreation.

Jody Kablack: Plans on meeting with them.

Maureen Valente: Many opportunities to share recreation with Town, not just "scheduled events" by Park & Recreation.

Jody Kablack: Request is \$300,000 by 2006. Set up as five year plan with \$100,000 being requested this year. Work would commence this year and be finished within 2 years.

Kirsten Roopenian: Explain betterments. Why not use them to fund walkways?

Jody Kablack: Betterments tax only the affected property owner. Only a small segment of the population would have to pay. Not fair due to the ability of all residents to use the walkways. No other walkways have been built using betterments. Walkway committee opined that this would not be a popular way to fund walkways.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.