

Community Preservation Committee
Minutes
Wednesday, October 18, 2006
Town Hall

Members Present: Chris Morely, Mark Kablack, Carole Wolfe, Alan Jefts, Richard Bell, Sheila Stewart and John Drobinski

Not Present: Tara Reed and Sherrill Cline

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

CPC Assistant

The committee introduced Jennifer Burney, the new Assistant Town Planner and discussed her role with the CPC.

Review of project submissions for FY08

- Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Development Related Projects
- Housing Allocation to Municipal Housing Trust
- Johnson Property Purchase
- Town Center Survey and Preliminary Engineering

Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Development Related Projects

Three proposals were submitted for the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail

- Conducting full title research – CPC requested funds: \$15,000
- Documenting existing wildlife species – CPC requested funds: \$25,000
- Creating Existing conditions base map – CPC requested funds: \$105,000

The Committee had a general discussion on the timing and funding for the projects and felt it was important to first conduct a title search. A suggestion was made by the Committee that the wetlands and wildlife documentation be done together and separate from the base map. If the proposals were approved at Town Meeting, funds wouldn't be available until July; the Committee discussed the possibility of administrative funds covering the cost of the title search which could be done in the next few months. The Committee discussed many concerns and issues they had in regards to the trail. The Committee agreed that more scientific data was needed for both citizen concern and for the Conservation Commission. The Committee discussed surface requirements for the trail under funding and design guidelines and possible funding available for the design and construction of a trail.

Housing Allocation to Municipal Housing Trust

The Committee discussed the possibility of investing funds held in the reserve account.

Johnson Property Purchase

The Committee discussed the development potential of the Johnson property. Uncertain of the development potential the Committee thought that 1-1/2 acres was buildable, the rest consisting of wetlands. The Conservation Commission has not reviewed the site and agreed that more information was needed through a full presentation at a future CPC meeting.

Town Center Survey and Preliminary Engineering

The Committee discussed general funding for the project. A full presentation will occur at an upcoming CPC meeting.

Future Presentations

The Committee discussed the timing of presentations for the four submitted projects. Chris Morley will discuss dates and scheduling with Jody Kablack, the town Planner.

Miscellaneous

The Committee discussed the importance of developing a grant agreement or contract for CPA projects and asked Ms. Burney to inquire about grant agreements or contracts that other towns use for their CPA projects. The Committee also asked Ms. Burney to inquire with the CPA Coalition to see if they are still active and if they had information on the impact of the declining real estate market on future state CPA funding.

Meet adjourned at 9: 00 p.m.