

Community Preservation Committee – June 25, 2008
Approved July 23, 2008

Present: Bruce Keep, Chair; Sean Conley, Al DeVito, Glenn Hearn, Dale Julier, Susan Phelps, Peter Rodegast; Tony Nevin, Admin. Asst. Absent: Lesley Eaton, Ginny Jones

A quorum being present, Bruce called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

The minutes of the meeting of May 28, 2008 were reviewed and approved unanimously after discussion of the status of funds set aside by Town Meeting in 2007 for Roadside Paths (see minutes April 23 and May 28, 2008). Tony reported that the Community Preservation Coalition had responded to his query on the issue, stating that the funds could either be

- a) returned to the Undesignated Reserve from which they were appropriated in 2007, subject to vote of Town Meeting; or
- b) transferred to another CPA-eligible project upon recommendation of the CPC, again subject to vote of Town Meeting.

Tony asked Bruce Stone about these options and Bruce stated that absent other action, unexpended funds revert back to their source after 5 years.

In order to meet bond counsel requirements for CPA funds used to subsidize interest on bonds for Town Hall renovation, the following resolution was moved by Sean Conley, seconded by Bruce Keep, and approved unanimously:

Resolved that the West Tisbury Community Preservation Committee concurs with the determination of the Historic Commission that "Town Hall is significant in the history, archeology, architecture or culture of the Town."

A general discussion of potential applicants for FY2009 funding ensued. Tony reported that Habitat for Humanity had expressed interest, and Bruce reported that the WT Congregational Church might submit a proposal for historic preservation. The possibility of CPA funding for a citizen-initiated project for a walking path from New Lane, across State Road from the police station, behind the Garden Club, and behind the library – with two footbridges – was discussed.

As part of a campaign to increase public awareness of CPA funding, it was suggested that a modest sign indicating CPA support be placed at the site of each CPA-funded project.

Bruce introduced some items of new business:

- 1) Revision of the CPC administrative assistant job description to include financial experience and a college degree as desirable qualifications, and preparation of Town Meeting material as part of the duties. Tony will enter revisions and resend to all CPC members.
- 2) Add information from the Community Preservation Coalition concerning Special Meetings to the WTCPC website, and update CPC membership for Coalition mailings.

At this point Susan Phelps arrived and discussion turned to the selection and responsibilities of the CPC Chair. It was agreed that many responsibilities that Caroline Flanders had undertaken as Co-Chair could be delegated to the Administrative Assistant. After further discussion, it was agreed that the Chair would rotate every four months as follows: Beginning in July 2008, Bruce Keep will serve as Chair with a Co-Chair serving a four-month term ending on October 31 2008, after which the Co-Chair would take over as Chair and another CPC member would serve as Co-Chair for a four-month term ending February 28 2009, and so forth every four months, with Co-Chair selection and succession being based on alphabetical order of the CPC members. Accordingly, Sean Conley will serve as Co-Chair until the end of October 2008, and then will serve as Chair with Al DeVito as Co-Chair until the end of February 2009, with Lesley Eaton next in the line of succession.

The question of how best to advertise the availability of CPA funds and attract creative applications was considered. Suggestions for enhancing the visibility of the CPA funding process included asking the selectmen to announce CPC meetings and fund application deadlines at their regular televised meetings; requesting announcements on MVTV; developing a newspaper article characterizing CPA efforts in all island towns, explaining funding sources and uses; and a story for the MV Magazine (probably too late for this year).

Although the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm, committee members continued a lively discussion of ways to engage the town in a visioning process for long-term planning and the possible use of CPA funds for that purpose.

The next meeting will be held on July 23, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Nevin
Administrative Assistant