

Town of West Tisbury
Community Preservation Committee (CPC)
Meeting Minutes – February 27, 2019, 5:30 pm
Howes House

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bea Phear, at 5:30 pm.

Present: Bea Phear, Ted Jochsberger, Cheryl Lowe, Jeffrey DuBard, Doug Ruskin

Others: Heidi Dietterich, Administrative Assistant

Chairman Phear again reminded the members to be sure to complete their Ethics Test and submit it to the Town Clerk, Tara Whiting.

Invoices for Approval:

The Committee reviewed the Martha's Vineyard Museum's Peddler's Wagon invoice for reimbursement of the \$50,000.00 appropriated for the project. On a motion made by Ted Jochsberger, seconded by Cheryl Lowe, the Committee unanimously approved payment of \$50,000.00 toward this invoice.

Old Business:

The minutes from the January 23, 2019 meeting were reviewed. There were two corrections noted by Ted Jochsberger. On a motion made by Cheryl Lowe, seconded by Ted Jochsberger, the minutes were approved as corrected, unanimously.

The Committee received copies of the 2019-20 CPC warrant articles as submitted to the Town Administrator. Doug Ruskin suggested wording consistency within the articles. The Committee agreed to adopt this approach and to use this wording going forward.

New Business:

Dietterich reported that the Board of Selectmen had signed the Municipal Housing Trust Grant agreement. However, the Selectmen still had questions around this agreement. Dietterich reported that she had spoken with Stuart Saginor, the Executive Director of the Community Preservation Coalition, to try to address the Selectmen's questions. She presented a handout of Saginor's comments to the committee. Saginor had responded that the Grant Agreement is put in place to protect the Town and also that the five year term date is good to leave in the agreement if the monies are not used—the CPC could 'claw back' the funds.

Doug Ruskin noted that all three of West Tisbury's selectmen are on this Municipal Housing Trust committee, as well as their appointees. Ruskin told the CPC members present, that all seven members of the Housing Trust committee must vote to use the Trust monies, under State Law. Dietterich provided a copy of the Mass. General Laws Chapter 44, Section 55C, which applies to Housing Trusts. Ruskin said he would like to keep researching this, to see if the Board of Selectmen need to be signatories on this

agreement. Bea Phear asked that a memo be written to Jen Rand, Town Administrator, letting her know that the Committee is further researching this agreement.

A copy of a recent Town Meeting handout was provided to the Committee. It was agreed that there should be a handout for the 2019 Town meeting as well. It was further suggested that the Town's website information be put on the handout so that more people would receive information and sign up for alerts about the town electronically. The same format should be used as in past years.

Dietterich reported that the MV Times had requested information on how much money the Town had spent in CPC funds for affordable housing since the year 2000 (or whenever the CPA law went into effect) in West Tisbury. She reported she had provided the information to the newspaper and had not heard anything further.

Doug Ruskin told the CPC that as the Committee's FINCOM representative, he would be suggesting to FINCOM that "No Action" be taken on all CPC articles, since the CPC vets each warrant article extensively prior to the articles be reviewed by FINCOM.

With no further business, the Committee agreed unanimously to adjourn at 6:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi J. Dietterich
Administrative Assistant