

Town of West Tisbury
Community Preservation Committee (CPC)
Meeting Minutes – August 26, 2020, 5:30 pm
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bea Phear, at 5:32 pm. The Committee asked that the ‘zoom’ invitations be sent with the agenda packet and reminder emails so that the hyperlink to the meeting was working properly.

Roll Call Present: Bea Phear, Ted Jochsberger, John Rau, Cheryl Lowe, Doug Ruskin

Absent: John Brannen, Nancy Dole, Jeffrey DuBard, Lesley Eaton

Others: Heidi Dietterich, Administrative Assistant

Old Business:

The Committee reviewed the minutes from the February 26, 2020 meeting. Chairman Phear asked if the Committee had any changes or corrections to the minutes. On a motion made by Cheryl Lowe, seconded by John Rau, the committee approved the minutes as presented, with Doug Ruskin abstaining.

The Committee reviewed the membership update. John Rau had been appointed as the Parks & Recreation Committee representative, Cheryl Lowe had been appointed by the Board of Selectman as an At-Large member, and Doug Ruskin was appointed by FinCom as their representative to the CPC. Lowe asked if the term was one year or three years. The term is three years. The Selectmen had sent an approval letter for her nomination with a one year term stated. In the Community Preservation Committee bylaws, all terms are for three years. Lowe would follow up with Jen Rand to check on this.

Bea Phear reiterated to the Committee that she would not be seeking the Chairmanship of the CPC for another year. The Committee discussed tenure, and Cheryl Lowe volunteered for the position. On a motion made by Bea Phear, seconded by Doug Ruskin, Cheryl Lowe was nominated to be Chairman of the Community Preservation Committee. On a roll call vote, the Committee unanimously approved Lowe’s nomination.

New Business:

The 2020-21 CPC Meeting Schedule was reviewed and accepted as presented.

Doug Ruskin reported that he had just come from the West Tisbury Board of Selectmen’s meeting and they had temporarily set the Special Fall Town Meeting for Tuesday, October 6, at the Tabernacle. At this meeting, the outstanding warrant articles recommended by CPC will be addressed and voted on by the citizenry.

The liaisons for CPC projects were reviewed and updated. Doug Ruskin was asked to be the liaison for the West Tisbury Congregational Church project. He asked that Dietterich lay the groundwork for

communication with Cathlin Baker and he will take on that role. The other CPC liaisons remained in place and will be asked for status of projects and also be available to address questions for the Committee at Town meeting, if called upon.

The Committee received status reports for active projects. The Mayhew Chapel project, approved in 2016 had still not begun. Bea Phear would contact them again to determine any progress. This project is in jeopardy of losing its appropriated funds at the end of this fiscal year. John Brannen had submitted a report on the Mill Brook project. Prudy Burt had reported a good committee was in place and shared a watershed sub-committee report on the Mill Brook. Dietterich reported that the Congregational Church's project had had an employee turnover and was waiting for a more detailed update on Hutker Architect's planning development, which they have been working on. Cheryl Lowe reported that Aidylberg III and the MV Public Charter School projects were stalled due to the Covid pandemic. Ted Jochsberger reported that DCRHA had not seen much difference in their numbers so far this year. Island Housing Trust had sent an update on the Perlman House, work/renovations are in full gear and they are hoping to have the facility rented by DCRHA in October 2020. IHT also reported on Kuehn's Way. The project should see construction beginning in the fall/winter of 2020. Jochsberger reported that the West Tisbury Housing Trust Fund had not spent any money in the past year. The Committee asked that follow-up on older projects such as the Mayhew Chapel, the MVRHS Track and the Vineyard Baseball Field Restoration be reported on at the September 30, 2020 CPC meeting.

Bea Phear asked if any Committee members had ideas for projects for the upcoming year. John Rau said he had heard from some community members asking about installation of a rope handrail at the Lambert's Cove Beach. Sheriff's Meadow owns the land and should be the applicant, and approval from ConComm would be necessary as well. The wooden pathway to the beach over the dunes is temporary, which was a requirement and it was asked if the rope handrail would be permanent or temporary. This would have to be determined, if stantions are permanent, it could pose a safety risk. Rau will follow up with Maria McFarland and the Conservation Committee. Bea Phear reported on the project being started by Island Housing Trust and the Island Autism Center. This project would be coming forward with an application this year. They had introduced the project to the Planning Board and it is a very exciting project for the Island. Heidi Dietterich reported speaking with the Equestrian Center, "Misty Meadows", about installation of a handicapped restroom facility and installation of a sensory trail. This facility is open to the public. She had encouraged the owner to apply for both projects.

Bea Phear asked if there were any historic projects that the CPC might be aware of. She asked Dietterich to follow up with Jen Rand regarding the Howes House project as a potential applicant.

Dietterich reported that Eligibility Application advertising begins on September 3, 2020. She also reported that she had spoken with the State Coalition director, Stuart Saginor, about CPA funding and any obstacles that might be in the way. Saginor said that registry fees remained strong and that it was "slim to none, (but never say never) that the Legislature and Governor would harm such a popular program."

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Dietterich
Administrative Assistant