Community Preservation Committee Meeting Minutes

Town Hall – May 10, 2021

Sturbridge, MA

At 7:00 pm the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) Chair called the meeting to order. In attendance: Penny Dumas (PD), Ed Goodwin (EG), Kadion Phillips (KP), Jeff Adams (JA), Ed Neal (EN), and Barbara Search (BS). Absent: Kelly Emrich (KE).

Guest: Jeff Bridges (JB), Town Administrator.

This meeting was held remotely pursuant to Governor Baker’s March 12, 2020, Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, and the Governor’s March 15, 2020, order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place. The meeting was held via the GoToMeeting application and available for public access via the Town’s on demand video broadcast, on cable television, or by telephone access during the meeting.

Joanne Everson, CPC Clerk, read an introduction to the virtual meeting. PD stated who was present and read the meeting agenda.

**Community Wide Historic Survey**

EN moved the motion to reconsider the Sturbridge Community Wide Historic Preservation Plan; BS seconds. Motion accepted 6-0-0.

Roll call vote:

EN, yes BS, yes EG, yes KP, yes JA, yes PD, yes

PD explained that she had received correspondence from Jean Bubon, Town Planner, and Charlie Blanchard of the Historical Commission regarding the Community Wide Historic Preservation Plan. BS said that the Massachusetts Historical Commission has informed the communities which have applied for grants that the vendors are looking for $35,000.00 to $40,000.00 to complete the projects, not the $20,000.00 that had originally been planned for. She added that the state is not raising their part of the grant but that the towns must increase their portions to meet the increased costs.

BS moved the motion to see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Community Preservation Fund Historic Fund Balance the sum of TWENTY THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS ($20,000.00) for the purpose of matching grant funds for the Historical Commission to undertake a Community-wide Historic Preservation Plan or take any action relative thereto; EN seconds. Motion accepted 6-0-0.

Roll call vote:

EN, yes BS, yes EG, yes KP, yes JA, yes PD, yes

**CPC Annual Report**

PD apologized for the report’s being late this year. She said she is working on it with Barbara Barry and will get it to the CPC members as soon as it is complete.

**Other Topics**

There was discussion as to whether the Board of Selectmen would open the Annual Town Meeting Warrant to update the Community Wide Historic Preservation Plan article; JB said they would. BS stated that there was not a quorum for the Historical Commission’s meeting to discuss the need to increase the Town’s share of the matching grant. PD stated that BS recommended it and Charlie Blanchard was in favor and that was sufficient.

The next meeting will be at 6:30 on June 7, 2021, in the Tantasqua High School cafeteria.

BS moved the motion to adjourn; EN seconds. Motion accepted 6-0-0.

Roll call vote:

EN, yes BS, yes EG, yes KP, yes JA, yes PD, yes

Meeting adjourned at 7:17 pm.

/jme