

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

September 2, 2020

A Regular Meeting of the Community Preservation Committee was held on Wednesday September 2, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom Video Conferencing Communication App and BATV.

Present: Rich Scanlon, Chairman, Doug Meagher, Vice Chair, Travis Brown, Treasurer, Tom Conway, Member, Marlies Henderson, Member, Joe Fiumara, Member, Jim O'Donnell, Member, Mary Leach, Member, Matt Battcock, Member and Katie Mahoney, Community Preservation Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Rich Scanlon called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and stated the meeting is being held via Zoom.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Janet Morris 74 Tercentennial Drive – Ms. Morris wanted to know if the PHR was in the Fall Preliminary Warrant and if the meeting tonight was being recorded. Chairman Scanlon stated that the Town Manager did put PHR in the Warrant, and he was not sure if the meeting was being recorded via Zoom, but is not opposed to it being recorded. However, it was too short of notice to have BATV record it.

REORGANIZATION:

Marlies Henderson seconded by Mary Leach made a motion to nominate Marlies Henderson as Chairman.

A roll call vote was taken
It was voted (2 – 6) against
Motion Failed

Doug Meagher – Nay
Travis Brown – Nay
Jim O'Donnell - Nay
Marlies Henderson – Aye
Joe Fiumara - Nay
Matt Battcock – Nay
Mary Leach – Aye
Rich Scanlon - Nay

Doug Meagher seconded by Matt Battcock made a motion to nominate Rich Scanlon as Chairman.

A roll call vote was taken
It was voted (6 – 2) in favor
Motion Passed

Doug Meagher – Aye
Travis Brown – Aye
Jim O'Donnell - Aye
Marlies Henderson – Nay
Joe Fiumara - Aye
Matt Battcock – Aye
Mary Leach – Nay
Rich Scanlon - Aye

Chairman Scanlon noted that he is retiring from the Town in Billerica which means he will also have to retire from the CPC. His position on the CPC is appointed by his title. The person hired as the next Chief Assessor will be appointed to the CPC. When Mr. Scanlon leaves in April, whoever is Vice Chairman will become Chairman.

Marlies Henderson seconded by Mary Leach made a motion to nominate Marlies Henderson as Vice Chairman.

A roll call vote was taken
It was voted (2 – 6) against
Motion Failed

Doug Meagher – Nay
Travis Brown – Nay
Jim O’Donnell - Nay
Marlies Henderson – Aye
Joe Fiumara - Nay
Matt Battcock – Nay
Mary Leach – Aye
Rich Scanlon - Nay

Doug Meagher seconded by Joe Fiumara made a motion to nominate Travis Brown as Vice Chairman.

A roll call vote was taken
It was voted (6 – 2) in favor
Motion Passed

Doug Meagher – Aye
Travis Brown – Aye
Jim O’Donnell - Aye
Marlies Henderson – Nay
Joe Fiumara - Aye
Matt Battcock – Aye
Mary Leach – Nay
Rich Scanlon - Aye

There was a short discussion as to whether a Treasurer/Secretary was actually needed since the committee has a coordinator and a recording secretary.

Jim O’Donnell seconded by Matt Battcock made a motion to nominate Doug Meagher as Treasurer.

Marlies Henderson seconded by Mary Leach made a motion to nominate Marlies Henderson as Treasurer

A roll call vote was taken for Mr. O’Donnell’s nomination
It was voted (7 – 2) in favor
Motion Passed

Doug Meagher – Aye
Travis Brown – Aye
Jim O’Donnell - Aye
Marlies Henderson – Nay
Joe Fiumara - Aye
Matt Battcock – Aye
Tom Conway - Aye
Mary Leach – Nay
Rich Scanlon - Aye

Middlesex Canal Museum Eligibility Form:

This applicant, with a location at 2 Old Elm Street, filed an Eligibility Form to seek compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Massachusetts Architectural Access Board standards at historic sites. The request is basically for an elevator for the building.

Doug Meagher, seconded by Mary Leach made a motion to accept the Middlesex Canal Museum eligibility form for an elevator.

A roll call vote was taken
It was voted (9 – 0) in favor
Motion passed

Doug Meagher – Aye
Travis Brown – Aye
Jim O’Donnell - Aye
Marlies Henderson – Aye
Joe Fiumara - Aye
Matt Battcock – Aye
Tom Conway - Aye
Mary Leach – Aye
Rich Scanlon - Aye

24 Salem Road Eligibility Form: Tavern at the Corner

Built in 1750’s, this historic property was an overnight stop on the stage coach line from Amherst, NH to Salem, MA. The owners are looking to replace clapboards, paint or stain the exterior, repair roof, add gutters and possibly add newer storm windows to protect the original windows.

Doug Meagher, seconded by Travis Brown made a motion to accept the 24 Salem Road eligibility form.

A roll call vote was taken
It was voted (8 – 1) in favor
Motion passed

Doug Meagher – Aye
Travis Brown – Aye
Jim O’Donnell - Aye
Marlies Henderson – Nay
Joe Fiumara - Aye
Matt Battcock – Aye
Tom Conway - Aye
Mary Leach – Aye
Rich Scanlon - Aye

CPA Rental Assistance:

There was a short discussion regarding using CPA funds for housing rentals. Marlies Henderson stated that there is much need for this especially since COVID-19 hit. Jim O’Donnell (also represents the Housing Authority) stated that at their last meeting, no one was in favor of using the funds for rentals. Mr. O’Donnell continued further that there is emergency funding for those in need and that the Housing Authority is currently looking into additional housing. There are over 5,000 people on the waiting list. Mary Leach volunteered to do some research for comparisons of other towns.

MINUTES OF July 7, 2020:

Marlies Henderson, seconded by Joe Fiumara made a motion to accept the July 7, 2020 minutes as written.

A roll call vote was taken
It was voted (7 – 0 - 2) in favor
Motion passed

Doug Meagher – Aye
Travis Brown – Aye
Jim O’Donnell - Aye
Marlies Henderson – Aye
Joe Fiumara - Aye
Matt Battcock – Abstain
Tom Conway - Aye
Mary Leach – Abstain
Rich Scanlon - Aye

Fiscal Update:

Katie Mahoney – The only update today is the admin balance is \$41,163 – only used 2 months’ worth of the fiscal year.

Also, she stated that there is a chain of command at the Town Hall. Paul Watson is very good about getting us information when we ask.

Community Preservation Coordinator Resignation:

Katie Mahoney, CPC Coordinator and Economic Development Coordinator is resigning from her positions. Her last day of employment will be September 9, 2020.

Katie wanted to acknowledge how wonderful it was working with many of you, one of the best committees in Billerica and thank you for the opportunity and privilege. She is very excited for new chapter and excited for her family.

The committee wished Katie well and thanked her for her hard work and some were disappointed regarding the background circumstances. There were many well wishes and sad to see her go.

Miscellaneous Correspondence – Not Open for Discussion:

Chairman Scanlon wanted to let everyone know that a warrant article was filed for the Peggy Hannon Rizza Complex. The committee should have received a copy of the design.

Many of the nights have been taken up by the Fin Com, BOS or Planning Board so the next CPC Meeting will be September 16, 2020 at 7 pm, and the Town Manager will be there to discuss the PHR complex.

We received a report in the Dept of Revenue’s City and Town newsletter that said, based on current Registry revenue, the CPA state match has been updated to 17.7% for FY21.

If you recall, the CPC had asked for Town Counsel to take a look at some parcels that were accepted by Town Meeting years ago that were never recorded because of difficulties with the titles. Most are owned by the Farmers, (Phil and Karen Farmer). The CPC had authorized Town Counsel to review the parcels with a cost of up to \$800 per parcel. They did complete some of the work, but not all. Rich did receive some reports and will be putting them on the agenda for the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

Marlies Henderson seconded by Matt Battcock made motion to adjourn.

A roll call vote was taken
It was voted (9-0) in favor
Motion passed

Doug Meagher – Aye
Travis Brown – Aye
Jim O’Donnell - Aye
Marlies Henderson – Aye
Joe Fiumara - Aye
Matt Battcock – Aye
Tom Conway - Aye
Mary Leach – Aye
Rich Scanlon - Aye

Chairman Rich Scanlon adjourned the meeting at 8:11 pm.

Joyce MacMillan
Recording Clerk