

TOWN OF HARWICH

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Approved 10.25.17

Community Preservation Committee Public Information Hearing of September 14, 2017

Electronically recorded.

1. Call to Order

Harwich Community Preservation Committee Meeting called to order by Chair Dave Nixon at 6:00 PM, on Thursday, September 14, 2017, in the Harwich Town Hall, Donn B. Griffin Meeting Room.

Present: Chair David Nixon, Vice Chair Kathy Green, Jim Atkinson, Cindi Maule, Daniel Tworek, and Joseph Powers

Absent: Selectmen Liaison Donald Howell

Vacant: Housing Committee representative, Conservation Commission representative, Housing Authority representative

Guests: Bob MacCready, Harwich Town Administrator Chris Clark, Harwich Selectperson Julie Kavanagh, Harwich

Selectmen Michael MacAskill, Brooks Free Library Director Ginny Hewitt, Harwich Recreation Director Eric Beebe,

Harwich Community Center Director Carolyn Carey, Sandy Hall, Harwich Town Planner Aly Sabatino, Harwich

Conservation Administrator Amy Usowski, Harwich Cemetery Administrator Robbin Kelley, Stan and Sandra Pestuszek,

and Sally Urbano

The Public Information Hearing Legal Notice was read aloud.

A motion was made by Joseph Powers, seconded by Jim Atkinson, to open the public hearing.

VOTE: Yes 6; No 0; Abstain 0. Motion carried unanimously.

Town Resident Sandra Pestuszek spoke in favor of using any available CPC funds towards restorations of the Brooks Free Library. The pillars are in such disrepair she doesn't want the town to delay; she is concerned about letting them deteriorate more.

Brooks Free Library Director Ginny Hewitt gave an update of that CPC project. Funds were received May 2016. Going out to bid in that late spring resulted in higher than expected costs. They again tried advertising the job this last June, and received only one submission, a previous bidder, and he had increased the job estimate by \$350,000. So, the library plans to advertise in the fall and line up the job at a more reasonable estimate. They have underestimated the cost of the chemical stripping. The Cape weather temperatures and workers are factors in the job and its costs.

The Rogers Group Statues project update: The library did start getting work estimates this summer, though they have had the funds for a couple of years. They feel the best approach is to have an assessment and a conservation plan done by the same conservationist. They have found the conservationist that did the restoration work on other Rogers statues at the John Rogers Studio in New Canaan, CT. They will contact him for a bid.

This fall the library will resubmit the Harwich Oracle Preservation project to the CPC, though an improved plan. As it turns out they have discovered that over 14 years of the 21 years of this publication has already been microfilmed by the Boston Public Library. This is wonderful because it is less expensive to digitize that format. It's a good thing the \$40,000 project was turned down last year because the new estimate is about \$10,000. This year's project application will also preserve the papers properly. They will discuss the project with the Harwich HDHC next week.

The library is doing other digitizing projects. Their complete collection of the Harwich Annual Town Reports will be digitized via a program called "Digitized of Commonwealth" via the Boston Public Library. Normally the program prefers to do about fifty volumes at a time, so the project will be completed this year or next.

Town Administrator Chris Clark provided a handout of the 12 potential CPA application projects, see graph to follow. This is a more comprehensive approach. Their goal is to submit more favorable projects and work cooperatively with the CPC. All the projects have a certain amount of significant priority. The project list was vetted through the BOS at their July 24 meeting and they would like the administration to work on them. He wants to know what can/will be funded by the CPC, then he won't pursue including that project on the Capital Plan budget.

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Town Administrator's handout

Potential Community Preservation Act (CPA) Applications for FY19

The following represents a list reviewed by the
Board of Selectmen on July 24, 2017. Additional projects have been included.

<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Responsible Party</u>	<u>Proposed Fund</u>
Hinckley's Pond	Natural Resources Director	Historic Preservation Recreation
Historic Records Retention System – Kings Systems	Town Clerk Community Center Director	Historic Preservation
Historic Records Retention Facility	Community Center Director Town Clerk	Historic Preservation
Albro House	Assistant Town Administrator	Historic Preservation
Judah Eldredge Property (Hawksnest Area) – Conservation Land	Town Planner Conservation Administrator	Open Space
Housing Trust & Housing Coordinator	Town Planner	Affordable Housing
Brooks Park Phase 5 (new LED lighting)	Recreation	Recreation
Whitehouse Field - New Score Board	Recreation	Recreation
Brook Library Preservation	Building Maintenance	Historic Preservation
Land Acquisition – Looking at Various Locations	Real Estate & Open Space Conservation Agent	Open Space
Mount Pleasant Cemetery Gravestone Conservation	Cemetery	Historic Preservation
Digitize the Harwich Oracle newspaper	Library	Historic Preservation

Additional notes:

Hinckley's Pond Project will be submitted again trying to meet the CPA guidelines. The three-point plan includes pond clean up and improve public access via stairs & walkways down to water, and bike access.

Historic Records Retention Project will be submitted again. The town hall's wet basement is inadequate storage for records. King Information Systems will scan and digitize all the records, creating a database for use. Then move the records to the community center for a proper storage area and increased access ability.

The Albro House Project will be submitted again. The CPC funded ramp work is done, costing \$19,000. Plantings have been added, supplemented costs paid with town funds. The town would like an analysis of the building's future; to get an estimate of the work needed on the building and its future uses.

Judah Eldredge Property in the Six Ponds area was originally proposed as a possible recharge site. Town Meeting voted support of this, but it was subsequently turned down at the polls. The Town Administrator has gone to Conservation requesting they pursue this land for open space conservation.

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Mr. Clark has been speaking with the Town of Yarmouth about working together on an affordable housing project. They have been very successful in doing these projects. It is difficult to get things done with a volunteer committee. Yarmouth works with their CPC. He would like to use them as a model. Mr. Clark believes he'll be looking for start-up funding. He doesn't have a current project yet.

Harwich Recreation Director Eric Beebe will be presenting two projects; he is just waiting on Rec Board approval. 1) Brooks Park Phase 5 – Lighting. The current failing lighting system has issues with high maintenance costs and rotting poles. They want to go with a new LED lights. 2) Replace the Whitehouse Field Score Board as the current board is failing.

A motion was made by Jim Atkinson, seconded by Cindi Maule to move to close the public hearing.

VOTE: Yes 6; No 0; Abstain 0. Motion carried unanimously.

Community Preservation Committee Regular Meeting Minutes of September 14, 2017

1. Call to Order

2. Approval of Minutes: Meeting of August 10, 2017

A motion was made by Kathy Green, and seconded by Jim Atkinson to approve the August 10, 2017 CPC Meeting minutes.

VOTE: Yes 4; Kathy Green, Joe Powers, Jim Atkinson, David Nixon, and Daniel Tworek
No 0;
Abstain 1. Cindi Maule Motion carried.

3. Old Business:

Kathy Green put together a small packet of information from the Coalition regarding CPC applications for the audience.

a) Discussion ideas for assisting potential applicants with their CPA project applications

With so many committee vacancies it was decided to wait to address this idea. In the future, the committee can reach out. Of course, applicants can get in touch with committee members for their assistance now.

4. New Business:

a) Real Estate & Open Space Committee request for appraisal funding

The Harwich REOS Committee along with the Harwich Conservation Trust are in the process of seeking funding for a Conservation Restriction on the 15-acre Cornelius Pond Woodlands Project (aka Eldredge Pond). An appraisal is needed; costing approximately \$2,500. Timing is a factor in the project. The land and eco-restoration costs are \$850,000. An anonymous donor has challenged a matching gift of \$425,000 if HCT can raise \$425,000. The land has public access.

A motion was made by Kathy Green, and seconded by Dan Tworek to support funds for an appraisal (up to a max of \$2,500) for the Cornelius Pond Woodlands Project.

VOTE: Yes 6; No 0; Abstain 0. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Other:

A letter from the Town of Yarmouth regarding "Sharing housing" was read aloud.

Approval of payroll for the Board Secretary: Month of August 2017

A motion was made by Dan Tworek, seconded by Joe Powers, to accept payroll.

VOTE: Yes 6; No 0; Abstain 0. Motion carried unanimously.

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6.Next meeting's Agenda points:

Applications deadline is October 2, 2017. Scheduling additional meetings will depend on how many applications are submitted.

The next CPC meeting is October 12, 2017. Jim Atkinson has a conflict; Planning Board meeting. Arrangements will be made to begin the CPC meeting at 5:30 PM instead of 6:00 PM to accommodate.

7.A motion was made by Dan Tworek, seconded by Jim Atkinson to adjourn.

VOTE: Yes 6; No 0; Abstain 0. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment 6:49 PM.