

**Minutes
Community Preservation Committee
2/21/2018**

Present: Danielle Arakelian, Barbara Carpenter, Susan Fox, Sanda Barry, Donna Farrell, Vin Ritchie, Jassy Bratko

Absent: Tony Coppola

Meeting called to order at 7.17pm. The minutes were read. Jassy made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Sue seconded. All in favor.

Danielle made a motion to amend Historical Commission to Historical Society in the minutes. Vin Seconded. All in favor.

Danielle read a letter from the Library Trustees saying they were withdrawing their application because they were trying to get the full amount funded on the town warrant. There was discussion and concern about why the application was withdrawn because CPC may be able to fund some of the project if not all the project. It was unclear if the Library Trustees understood this.

Sanda reported on the CPC finances as outlined by the Town Accountant. They did not seem to agree with our anticipated figures (much lower) and Brian Bullock suggested that the figures should be more in line with our estimates. It was agreed the CPC finances needed further clarification and Sanda planned to meet with the Accountant. It is extremely difficult to schedule discussion time because the accountant is only in Hubbardston one day per week.

Vin made a motion to tell the churches that the projects will be on the town warrant. The amounts to be determined.

Sue Seconded.

There was some discussion and concern about this because it was unclear how much of the projects could be funded. The committee felt the Unitarian Church should be able to submit its application for grant funding.

All in favor.

Vin updated the committee on the affordable housing funds. He had ordered a title report on 47 Brigham St. There were two recorded mortgages on the property. Both may have been satisfied but neither have been discharged. There has been no foreclosure activity. The owner wishes to donate the property in lieu of back taxes. The title search lawyer recommended continuing with the tax title taking initiated by the town in 2007. Once the town owns the property it can be rebuilt as an affordable house with the assistance of an organization like Habitat for Humanity.

Vin made a motion to pay the bill for \$350 for the tax title.

Sue seconded.

All in favor.

There was some discussion around the balance of the voted affordable housing money as it has been two years since it was approved by the town. The committee was satisfied that the project is progressing and the money would not have to be returned.

It was agreed that the next meeting would be March 28th to finalize the warrant articles and project funding.

Sanda would meet with the accountant to verify the financial status of CPC and borrowing costs so we could make a decision on funding the three potential projects for town meeting.

Danielle would request more information on the library's decision to withdraw their application.

Danielle made a motion to adjourn.

Sue Seconded.

All in favor.

(Approved at 3/28 CPC meeting)