

Minutes
Community Preservation Committee
March 28, 2018

Meeting called to order at 7.03pm. Members present Danielle Arakelian, Susan Fox, Barbara Carpenter, Vin Ritchie, Sanda Barry, Donna Farrell and Jassy Bratko

Absent: Tony Coppolla

Visiting: Ryan McClane, Town Administrator

Minutes from previous meeting were read. Susan made a motion to accept the minutes as read, Donna seconded. All in favor.

Sanda presented figures she had received from the Town Accountant re: balance in Hubbardston CPA accounts.

Balance Budgeted \$37,501.10

Balance Open Space \$31,052.02

Balance Historic \$35,927.02

Balance Housing \$19,827

Balance Undesignated \$180,889.34

Total CPA Funds \$305,196

Need to account for Admin Funds also.

Discussion followed about three ongoing applications:

- 1) Library roof
- 2) Day Spring Church repairs
- 3) First Parish Church

The long term policy of the CPC Committee is to fund all eligible projects that are submitted to the degree that funding is available. It is the responsibility of Town Meeting to approve eligible projects and not the responsibility of CPC to decide which projects will be funded at the expense of others.

There was discussion about the Judi McArthur, Library Trustees email withdrawing their application. Did the Trustees understand that CPC was willing to fund some of the project but could not fund all? That CPC advised Trustees to seek funding from Town in addition to CPA funds. CPC felt it was important to fund the library to the degree possible as it had been held up in CPC adoption campaign as primary example of how CPA historical funds could be used. It was decided to include library project and attend the next Trustees meeting and the Selectboard meeting where this project was to be discussed.

There was discussion about funding the churches in light of the recent Acton court decision on CPA church funding, which was quite ambiguous. It was decided that the Hubbardston church projects were secular in nature because the funding would be used to preserve important historical buildings in the town center and the repairs were not religious in nature i.e. there was no specific religious symbolism involved. It was also agreed that the deterioration of the church buildings had a negative impact on the entire town, especially the town center. Funding the church repairs would complement the Town's expenditures on improving the town center road.

Specific funding amounts for each project were discussed with the following result:

First Parish Church

Project Request \$76,620
Historic Reserves \$35,000
Undesignated \$3,310
Undesignated \$38,310 borrowed over 5 years

Day Spring Church

Project Request \$100,000
Undesignated \$50,000
Undesignated \$50,000 borrowed over 5 years

Library Roof

Project Request \$233,000
Available CPC Funds \$133,000
Undesignated \$33,000
Undesignated \$100,000 borrowed over 5 years

Vin made a motion to fund the projects as proposed

Susan seconded

All in favor

Discussion followed about questions arising about projects and applicants not being present at meetings to answer questions. Vin made a motion that CPC establish a policy that all CPA applicants are required to come to meetings until the project is voted on in order to answer questions that may arise.

Sue seconded

All in favor.

Sanda made a motion to adjourn

Vin Seconded

All in favor