

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES

August 9, 2023
Wareham Town Hall, Rm 24

WAREHAM TOWN CLERK
2023 OCT 2 PM2:40

Present: Sandy Slavin, Treasurer, Jean Connaughton, Sam Corbitt, Patrick Lester, Sherbie Worthen, Clerk, Tricia Wurts, Selectboard Liaison

Absent: David Heard, Chair

Guests: Mary McFadden, Josh Fatherty, Nancy McHale, Bob Gleason, Nanette Perkins

Call to Order: Sandy Slavin opened meeting at 6:00pm, followed by Roll Call.

Minutes, July 23, 2023. Sam Corbitt moved to approve Minutes, Patrick Lester seconded. **Vote: 5-0-0.**

Westgate Viewing Stand: Josh Fatherty, representing ConComm, described the project started by Dave Pichette to move the pump house and construct a platform to view the Weweantic. There is currently no footing and water collects on the concrete foundation which engineer has recommended removing. DPW will assist with removal. The installation will be done by J.C. Engineering using CPA funds. ConComm has approved the construction. The 16' by 16' space may be increased. Accessibility is a difficult task maybe requiring increasing funding from \$21,000 to \$26,000. A picnic table is a possible addition. Fatherty recommended a short, shallow ramp off of the deck and making Mary's steep trail accessible.

Celebrating Wareham's Community Preservation Act's 20 years of Successful Projects:

Mary McFadden, the major catalyst for launching CPC over 20 years ago described the highlights of the process. In March, 2001, eleven Wareham residents attended a meeting with the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA) in Worcester. McFadden's approach was to eliminate any organized opposition, a successful technique that involved early support from numerous community and governmental groups including Wareham school students. The current Town Administrator had come from Westwood, an early adopter of CPA. In October, 2001, the Wareham Town Meeting Article described CPA, composed of three funding areas, Open Space (Recreation was added later) Historic Preservation and Affordable Housing. The Article included the \$100,000 exemption for residential homeowners and the emphasis on the 3% investment. At that time, only 3% of Wareham's land was protected. The original CPC budget was \$1,300. There was an emphasis on any project that supported clean water. Wareham, one of the earliest adopters, passed the CPA Article by 75%.

Mark's Cove Vista: Bob Gleason, Wareham Land Trust Chair, requesting \$243,800 from CPC described an additional \$125,000 preservation partnership grant pending from Office of Environmental Affairs (OEA). They have gained a lot of support for the project. Bob Wilbur,

formerly Audubon staff, will be viewing the site, the only place to view the water. Nancy McHale, WLT Treasurer, discussed trail maintenance and improvement, opportunities for bird watching and potential nesting site for Diamond Back Terrapins. There is currently parking for 4 cars.

Village at 815 Main St: Nanette Perkins needed to resolve billing and payments from CPC for the additional affordable housing project that was passed at Spring Town Meeting. Slavin explained that CPC normally pays the individual vendor rather than the project director paying the invoice and then submitting the reimbursement request to CPC.

CPC Project Payments:

Westfield Soccer- \$1,600

Shangri-La playground water retention basin- \$10,000.

Dog Park – funding from Stanton Foundation has fallen short.

CPA Sites to feature for Celebration: Sandy and Jon from WCTV will travel to sites next week for photos. Possible locations:

Historic sites: Tremont Nail, Spinney, Wigwam, Oak Grove, Congregational Church Windows

Affordable Housing: Habitat

Open Space: Wickett's Island and Pier, Swifts Beach, Freedom Cranberry, Minot Forest Trails and Kiosk.

Other, Girl's Softball, Town Hall, Andersson Track, Little League

Display Areas - Town Hall by elevator at War Memorial. Possible Map as handout of recreational areas. Nancy McHale suggested traveling exhibit and loop video that can move all over town, set up at events and different locations, ie. Harbor Masters, Schools.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn accepted unanimously at 7:45pm.

Respectfully submitted by Sherbie Worthen, Clerk

Sherbie Worthen 10/3/23