

Community Preservation Committee
ZOOM # 963 2754 7032 Minutes February 19, 2021 2:00 PM Town Hall
FINAL

Present for the Community Preservation Committee and attending the meeting were:
Committee Members: Bill Rossi, Warren Doty, Steve Lewenberg, Lisa Burkin, Jane Slater, Cathy Thompson.
Staff: Tim Carroll, Dilly DeBlase, Ellen Biskis, Rodney Bunker, Kara Shemeth
Also in attendance: Ann Wallace (Housing Committee), Dawn McKenna, "Alison" (called in to the zoom from 508 397 1743)

The meeting came to order at 2:00 pm. Mr. Rossi asked if everyone had reviewed the minutes from the November 18 meeting. Everyone had, a motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously with six in favor via a roll call vote.

Mr. Rossi opened the public hearing at 2:05 pm and read the legal notice:

There will be a ZOOM public hearing to discuss and receive public comment on an additional Community Preservation Act funding request from the Chilmark Housing Committee for voter consideration at the April 2021 Annual Town Meeting. To see if the Town will vote to approve the following request of the Community Preservation Committee: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the existing Community Preservation Reserve for Community Housing the sum of \$100,000.00 to replenish Chilmark's rent subsidy program. This program has been in existence since 2002 and managed by the Dukes County Regional Housing Authority and the Housing Committee. A transfer of \$100,000 from the existing Community Preservation Undesignated Reserve Fund to the Affordable Housing Reserve Fund would be required to fund this appropriation. All are welcome.

Also discuss in the public hearing the recent request from the Town of Chilmark to appropriate up to \$30,000 from the existing Community Preservation Reserve for Historic Resources to preserve the bell tower on the Historic Menemsha Schoolhouse.

Discussion of the Menemsha Schoolhouse Bell Tower

Rodney Bunker reported that after inspecting the damage and rot he estimates the cost to be closer to \$40,000. Ellen Biskis advised that there is \$9,000 left from an October 2019 Article for roof and schoolhouse repairs. Jane Slater expressed that while she is in favor of the repairs, the project should come to the Historical Commission prior to being presented to other boards. As the item was not listed as a topic in the legal ad for the 2/19/21 meeting, it cannot be acted on. A legal notice will be placed and this will be voted on by the CPC a meeting for 3/12/21 to get the item on the warrant and to allow the Historical Commission time to review the project.

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Discussion of Rental Assistance Program

Ann Wallace gave an update of the rental assistance program and noted that it helped 7 adults and 4 children living in Chilmark and the influx of the requested CPC funds (\$100,000) into the Affordable Housing Fund will continue to fund the program for another 2 years.

The Committee asked if there was any public comment, there was none. The hearing was closed at 2:17pm.

Action: Warren Doty motioned to have the Community Preservation Committee recommend voters appropriate from the existing Community Preservation Reserve for Community Housing the sum of \$100,000.00 to replenish Chilmark's rent subsidy program. A transfer of \$100,000.00 from the existing Community Preservation Undesignated Reserve Fund to the Affordable Housing Reserve Fund would be required to fund this appropriation.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously with six in favor via a roll call vote.

The committee then reviewed past CPA appropriations

Several projects are on hold or are waiting to build up funds. Discussions of note below:

- Bill Rossi will contact Krishana Collins to see if there's any more need of funds for the Tea Lane Farmhouse project (\$13,311.72 left in fund)
- Remainder of CPC funds for Squibnocket could be used by Tim Carroll to remove damaged fence and fix parking lot in the spring. Specific request to come at future date.
- Harbor Homes project for homeless men, project is done. (\$60,000 left in two funds to be paid out).
- Field Fund for Chilmark School fields (\$25,000) waiting on details from applicant
- Senior Units (\$50,000 in fund) – project on hold
- TRI/PALS program (\$82,600 left in fund) Kara Shemeth to reach out to applicant and check up on project.

The Library flooring has been completed. The unused \$660 will be returned to the historic preservation reserve fund.

Action: Warren Doty motioned to close out the fund and return the remaining \$660 back to the CPC's Historic Preservation Reserve Fund.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously with six in favor via a roll call vote.

The Keunes Way Island Housing Trust (IHT) project has asked for fund disbursements for three CPC articles voters have previously approved. The articles totaled \$99,760 which is \$50 different than the recent request from IHT (\$99,810).

Action: Steve Lewenberg motioned to release funds in amount voted on (\$99,760) and allow Chair to sign.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously with six in favor via a roll call vote.

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Discussion

-The previously approved CPA warrant articles from November 18, 2020 for the April 2021 Annual Town Meeting were reviewed.

-MV Shellfish Group request for CPC funds.

Town Council found the application did not meet criteria for CPC funds. Warren Doty stated that a more detailed plan is needed and it should be considered as a warrant article for the 2022 Annual Town Meeting.

Administration:

With no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 2:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Kara E. Shemeth, Board Administrator