

Community Preservation Committee Minutes
09/20/2016

Present: Jim Natle, Peg Louraine, Nancy Bachmann, Megan Manitsas, Les Squires, Wilbur Quirk, Judy Healey, Linda Leduc

1. Discussion Items

Current Budget: overview of Preservation, Recreation, Affordable Housing balances.

We will reclaim \$1663 from \$2819 Belchertown Historical Association grants for which work has been completed and all invoiced paid. These balances will return to our General Funds.

General discussion of methods of payment to grantees; we are basically a “reimbursement” type of grant; we can reimburse grantees who have directly paid their vendors; alternatively, we can pay submitted invoices from vendors for completed work only.

Project Updates:

Lawrence Memorial Hall windows project paid off.

There is movement on the Town Clock grant. Steve Williams has found someone to do the repair work.

The digitizing of the Sentinel is complete (\$2819 remaining and returned to our General Funds).

The Washington District Schoolhouse has been moved to a temporary site on the Stone House Grounds. Awaiting invoices.

Library work on trim, etc., begins this week. The window will probably not be done this year.

HAP is using funds from their 2014 grant.

The Grantham Group was granted their requested tax credits, so should begin moving forward on the Assisted Living project.

The basketball court work at Chestnut Hill has been completed. The Recreation Department grant is all zeroed out.

LeeAnn Connelly reports that the Conservation Commission may require less funding from the grant they received at Town Meeting in May of 2016. Further information later, but we may be regaining \$15,000 for our General Fund. She reports that they will be submitting a new grant application for Mader Town Forest for \$90,000. This is a lumber-producing property.

There has been much correspondence between Chairman Natle, the Town Counsel, and the State regarding our Town Meeting approved bonding of \$98,000 to install new windows at Everett Acres. After much discussion, the upshot seems to be that we cannot do the bonding for this project. There is no case law in existence to clarify this decision, but the Department of Revenue rejected the bonding, and our best understanding of the decision is that CPA funds cannot be used to repair/maintain real property that was not purchased with CPA funding. The committee consensus was that we would not carry on further discussion for now, and that the project could not be funded.

Website and **2017 Applications** discussions were tabled until Betsy Loughran could be at the next meeting, as she is the manager of the website and would produce the new application forms.

General discussion of application deadline date for this year. Again, tabled until Betsy is in attendance.

The Committee signed bills.

Meetings schedule for the remainder of 2016:

October 4
October 18
November 1
November 15
December 6
December 20

Meeting adjourned at 8:16