

CPC Minutes
October 7, 2014

Present: Les Squires, Jim Natle, Betsy Loughran, Peg Louraine, Megan Manitsas, Linda Leduc

Guests: Kimberly Allen, Ann Schotanus, Vicky Martin Auffrey, Marlene Beech, Robert, LaChance Eric Weiss, Monica Panek, Maria Philpott, Steve Williams, Archie Archible, Thomas Ruscio.

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:05.

2. **Jessica's Boundless Playground:** The group gave an update on the progress to date. They also turned in an application for \$85,000. CPC has already given \$140,000 to the project. This application would bring the CPC percentage to 30% of the project.

Vicki Martin Auffrey gave a summary of the huge effort the group has put in, and the funds committee members have donated themselves. In addition many parts of town government and businesses and other volunteers have contributed. The playground is 100% accessible. It will be a destination site for the town as well as for people in wheelchairs from all over the valley.

What is still needed is the cement base, the rubber, and some additional parts. Steve Williams and DPW have provided oversight and direction. The project is now a component of the Belchertown schools.

The Committee asked for an early positive decision on the request so as to avoid having to borrow and pay interest. They emphasized that they had requested funds from a wide range of groups and did not see sources other than CPC.

3. Discussion:

- The Committee emphasized that any application had to go before Town Meeting by law. We assume there will be a special town meeting in December. The selectmen decide what requests can go before that meeting.
- The Committee historically has not put requests before a special town meeting as they wish to have one competitive funding cycle where everyone has a fair chance at getting funds. However, it has made one exception, and it is legal to make an exception.

- Jim Natle explained that it is legal to spend FY 16 funds.
- Last year our budget was \$300,000. Our debt service is \$128,000 that must be paid before any new grants are given.

Questions we have:

1. What is the time left on each of our bonds?
2. What projects are the Conservation Commission and DPW thinking about in the future?
3. Are there any other major projects that we know from other town groups?
4. What is this year's state grant?
5. What funds are unspent from past years?

The Committee agreed to read the application and seek answers to those questions before the next meeting. We will discuss the project again at that meeting.

3. Current Projects

Jim Natle announced that the Foley Field fence and St. Francis windows have been finished. The remaining funds from Foley Field have been returned to the CPC account. The funds for St. Francis are also now spent.

4. CP3 Application:

Linda Leduc has submitted the annual CP3 application. The group reviewed the application and made several changes:

- The Recreation Path (5/11/09) was cancelled.
- The St. Francis windows project is complete
- The assessment of the Scarborough Brook dam needs to be added.

There were questions about the Mt. Hope cemetery project. Betsy will research the minutes to see if we have data about this project.

5. Web site:

Betsy will make several changes in the application. It was agreed that applications will be available on Nov. 3, 2014 and will be due Monday December 15, 2014.

The following pictures will be used:

Jessica's Boundless – Betsy will get pictures from Lou Louranie
Graves – Les will get a picture
Hope Methodist – Picture has been sent.
Fence – Picture to be sent to Peg next week
St. Francis Windows – Les will get a picture.
Skate Park: Pictures have been sent.

5. New Member:

We have a new member from the Housing Committee. However, she hasn't gotten in touch with Jim and we don't have her e-mail..

6. Meeting adjourned at 9:00. Next meeting October 21st.