

Community Preservation Committee

Minutes

Date: April 29, 2020

Time: 7:30 PM

Place: Zoom Virtual Meeting

Attendees: Committee Members: Didi Chadran, John Lee, Beth Williams, Jo Ward, Erin McBee, Doug Thornton

Absent: Pam Marston, Michelle Catalina, Fran Nickerson

Guests: Dan Daly

Meeting Convened at 7:32 pm

1. Roll Call, Sound Check were done. Preamble, Rules for Participation, and Reminder that meeting materials are available online were read.
2. Public Comment Period – No public comments were received.
3. Reviewed minutes from February 26, 2020 meeting. Minutes were approved unanimously by all in attendance.
4. Treasurer's Report. J. Lee stated that after all grant requests, that the CPC Committee should have approximately \$33,669.80 in unreserved funds. Town Hall has put a spending freeze in place, but this does not affect CPC funds.
5. Annual Town Meeting is currently schedule for June 20,2020 from 1:00 – 5:00 pm.
6. Terms Expiring on June 30, 2020. Both John Lee and Beth Williams' terms on CPC will expire on June 30,2020. Both expressed that they will be volunteering for another term. Beth has already submitted paperwork to Town Hall for review by Select Board.
7. Extension of Sunset date for funds unspent by Conservation Commission. Tim Bragan has already handled the paperwork to extend the sunset date. Concern was expressed that this should have been decided by CPC prior to Tim Bragan extending without our approval.
8. COVID-19 Hardship. Discussion was held as to what CPC can do to alleviate hardships to Harvard Residents brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. The 2012 amendments to the Community Preservation Act clarified that rental assistance programs are an eligible CPA community housing application. Projects of this type fall under the "support category" of the allowable uses chart, as defined in section 2 of the CPA legislation:
 - ***"Support of Community housing", shall include, but not be limited to, programs that provide grants, loans, rental assistance, security deposits, interest-rate write downs or other forms of assistance directly to individuals and families who are eligible for community housing, or to an entity that owns, operates or manages such housing, for the purpose of making housing affordable.***

Didi will contact Alice Von Loesecke of the MAHT to inform her to this availability and Beth Williams will contact Debbie Thompson of the Harvard Council on Aging to inquire if any Harvard Seniors might need assistance.

9. CPA Project Signs. With Michelle Catalina in non-attendance. No new update.
10. Standing CPC Meeting Schedule & Location: Next meeting is schedule for May 27, 2020 via Zoom video conferencing.
11. Meeting was adjourned at 8:38 pm, by unanimous vote.