

DRAFT MINUTES

Community Preservation Committee

September 29, 2020

Present: Steve Blake, Brenda Bowman, Patrick Crowley, Beverly Goodale, Patricia Halpin, Christopher Rucho, Vincent Vignaly

Absent: Bill Chase, Sarah Miles

Guests: Nancy Lucier, Bob Barrell, Marc Frieden, Anna Mary Kramer, Marcia Cairns Jim Pedone, Cristina Pedone, Patrick Inderwish, Linda Morrison, Erin Palumbo

**Chair Patrick Crowley called zoom meeting to order at 6:02 pm.
Attendance was taken by roll call.**

Review and approval of Minutes of September 22 2020 meeting was postponed.

ADDRESSING COMMUNITY HOUSING NEEDS

Patricia Halpin, chair of Affordable Housing Trust, presented a request for \$25,000 grant:

To provide accessible capital to perform all lawful activities associated with assessing and implementing affordable housing opportunities in West Boylston, whether by the Affordable Housing Trust or in concert with the Housing Authority or their agents.

The grant will assist our community to:

- 1. Hire consultants and contractors to provide professional services in the development and implementation of a plan for the creation or expansion of affordable housing for seniors consistent with the**

wishes of the town as expressed in its Master Plan and Housing Production Plan.

2. Evaluate housing date and needs, whether rental or ownership.
3. Monitor and preserve existing affordable housing thereby keeping the Subsidized Housing Inventory current.

This funding will provide resources to contract for professional and legal services to guide the ZBA in monitoring affordable housing development thus insuring compliance with state statutes and also provide additional funding for these services as well as for other unforeseen lawful services that may need to be addressed before a formal Town Meeting warrant article can be processed.

Questions and discussion centered around the fact that previous year grants totaling \$58,000 have not been used. When a project presents itself, the Trust must be able to move quickly to contract for services between Town Meetings.

Upon motion of Vincent Vignaly and second by Christopher Rucho the application was approved to be sent for consideration at Town Meeting. Votes: Steve Blake yes

Brenda Bowman yes

Beverly Goodale yes

Patricia Halpin yes

Christopher Rucho yes

Vincent Vignaly yes

Patrick Crowley no

MIXTER FIELD RENOVATION

Patrick Inderwish of the Park Facilities Committee presented an application for a grant of \$651,064.31 from unrestricted funds to restore and renovate Helen Mixter Field.

Due to its deteriorating condition, the field has been unable to use since 2018. The field is a softball sized diamond with large outfield located on Prescott Street. The primary users were children's softball and baseball leagues, along with high school and adult softball. Renovation would include drainage system and creation of new soccer field as well as structures for baseball.

Application has been made to the PARC grant program for a grant of \$100,000. The PARC Grant Program is a reimbursement program.

The proposal aligns with the goals for the Open Space and Recreation Plan, will provide needed athletic field for north side of town, and will include paved areas for access for persons with disabilities.

There is a demonstrated need for additional fields in the town.

Concerns raised in discussion:

Destruction of stonewall which has historical significance

Impact on Senior Center Driveway and parking

Upon motion of Christopher Rucho and second by Steve Blake, the CPC voted to recommend to Town Meeting to approve the amount of \$652,000 from unrestricted funds to restore and renovate Helen Mixter field.

Vote: Steve Blake yes

Brenda Bowman yes

Patrick Crowley yes

Beverly Goodale abstain

Patricia Halpin yes

Christopher Rucho yes

Vincent Vignaly yes

Meeting scheduled for Oct 1 cancelled Meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm
Respectfully submitted, Patricia Halpin clerk