

Community Preservation Committee

Minutes
May 19, 2020

Members Present: Ellen Preston, Hank McCarl, Jennifer-lee Levitz Aronson, John Feener, Bob Whitmarsh. Catherine Schlichte, Co-chair, Heidi Wakeman, Pamela Tobey, and Barbara Silberman, Co-chair.

Absent: None.

Members of the public: Brianna Kormi.

Staff: Mayor Sefatia Romeo Theken; Jaimie Corliss.

Meeting called to order 6:01 PM by Catherine S. with the following preamble:

This meeting is recorded by video and audio in accordance with state Open Meeting Law.

Consistent with the Governor's orders suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law and banning gatherings of more than 10 people, this meeting will be conducted by remote participation.

If you are calling in on a phone you can press Star 9 (*9) to request to speak. If you are watching on a computer or device there is a "raise hand" button that you can tap or press to request to speak. Please use either of these options during oral communications to be recognized to speak.

Attendance was taken by roll call.

Item # 1 Approval of minutes from April 22, 2020

Jaimie C. stated the minutes are not yet complete. Minutes will be reviewed at next meeting.

Item # 2 Historical Preservation Restrictions

Catherine S. opened discussion regarding the policy on Historical Preservation Restrictions. Barbara S. will provide samples of historical preservation restrictions for the Committee to review. John F. stated that historical restrictions should also take into consideration historical sites and not just buildings. Bob W. added that if a property is on the national register there is not necessarily a deed restriction. Catherine S. added that part of the application process should be providing any historical restrictions. John F. asked if applicants should include the cost of obtaining a restriction in their application. Catherine S. responded by saying that if they do not have a sufficient restriction, then they would have to file and it would be the applicant's responsibility. However, if it is not in the statute, then it can be part of the application. Barbara S. added that drafting the covenant could come with an extra cost as well. She asked if we are putting a deed restriction on the property for the use of the property or on a building for the use of the building. For example, at Stage Fort Park it is the land that needs to be protected. There was further discussion about how restrictions would need to be tailored to each case. Heidi W. asked if there was a specific reason this discussion came up. Catherine S. stated that it is coming partly from the recent conversation regarding Mattos and other projects. There was further discussion regarding the relevancy of historical preservation restrictions. There was discussion

regarding including the Administration and City Council in the process of determining restrictions. Jaimie C. added that the question was raised also in part because the Cape Ann Museum reached out and asked about when the Committee determines a restriction is necessary and who would hold the restriction.

Item # 3 Project Updates

Jaimie C. updated the Committee on the status of the Action Inc. TBRA project and the Stage Fort Park Cannons. Barbara S. added she received an email from Lynne Sweet, the consultant working on the 15 Pearl Street project, but needed clarification before putting it before the Committee.

There was discussion regarding notifying grantees of the openness to extend contracts. Catherine S. suggested sending an email reminder to grantees for their July 15th quarterly report and ask them to let us know if they need additional time.

Next Meeting – June 16, 2020

MOTION: John F. moved to adjourn. Seconded by Bob W. Roll call vote: Jennifer-lee A. yes; John F. yes; Hank M. yes; Ellen P. yes; Catherine S. yes; Barbara S. yes; Pamela T. yes; Heidi W. yes; and Bob W. yes. Motion passes.

Meeting adjourned at 6:44 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jaimie Corliss