

Community Preservation Committee

Helen Abdallah Donohue
Cheryl Doyle
Joseph Greeley
John Hall
Debbie Holmwood
Judith Howard
Peter McFarland
Anne White Scoble
Robert Thornton



**Director of Community
Planning and Economic
Development**

Paul Halkiotis, AICP

Assistant Planner
Patrick Deschenes

Community Preservation Committee Meeting

2/14/2018

4:30 P.M. - 5:30 P.M.

Room 24

Norwood Town Hall

PRESENT:

Cheryl Doyle
Joe Greeley
John Hall
Judith Howard
Peter McFarland
Anne White Scoble
Helen Abdallah Donohue
Debbie Holmwood

Also Present: Paul Halkiotis, Town Planner
Patrick Deschenes, Assistant Town Planner

ABSENT:

Robert Thornton

At the start of the meeting Mr. Hall wished to conduct a historical preservation ceremony. At the time Ms. Donohue presented CPC member and Historical Commissioner Judith Howard with a gavel. The gavel, having historic significance, will remain in the care of Norwood's Historic Commission.

Meeting regarding St. Gabriel's Chapel – Francis Hopcroft, PBCC Chairman

Mr. Hopcroft provided the Committee with a rundown of the current situation of the Chapel. According to Mr. Hopcroft the situation is dire and if action is not taken this year, the Chapel may not make it through another winter. He also informed the Committee of the fact that at the May Annual Town Meeting of 2017, Town Meeting members approved the original \$1.1 million needed for renovations. However, the problem is that when bids came in for contractor work, the low bid was \$1.4 million.

Mr. Hall asked what the legal restrictions are that pertain to this certain type of request.

Mr. Deschenes spoke of the situation and of the information he had received earlier in the day from the Community Preservation Coalition. Essentially the CPC can add CPA funds to a project, but can't reduce town funding that has already been allocated. This action would violate the "no supplanting" clause in section 6 of the Community Preservation Act which states: "The community preservation funds shall not replace existing operating funds, only augment them."

MOTION made by Mr. Hall to approve the paying the difference, second Ms. Donohue

Discussion was had regarding the issue.

Ms. Donohue suggests bringing up the issue with Town Manager Mazzucco.

Ms. Howard believes that it is premature for a vote on the topic at this time. Mr. Hopcroft will come back for the next CPC meeting to continue discussion.

Mr. Hall suggests writing out the question of "supplanting" formally so that Town Counsel will be able to give a legal opinion on the issue.

MOTION withdrawn

Review of Needs Assessment meetings with Committees/Boards

Mr. Halkiotis discussed the three previous meetings that have taken place with the Conservation Commission, Historical Commission, and the Housing Authority. All were productive and established a connection between the respective committees and what the CPC is looking for from them when it comes to the Needs Assessment.

Mr. Hall attended two of the meetings, and felt that many projects discussed will require multi-year funding.

A consensus from CPC members and committee representatives Ms. Doyle, Ms. Howard, and Ms. White Scoble was that the process went well.

Public Outreach Subcommittee – Update

The Subcommittee had not met yet, but the members spoke regarding measures that needed to be done.

Ms. Holmwood stated that information about the CPA is out there, but there is also a lot of misinformation. She believes that a Public Service Announcement through Norwood Public Access should be used to promote a future public meeting.

Mr. Hall suggested an eventual survey and that the Town will need to find ways to stay engaged with the CPA.

Mr. McFarland stated that the CPC needs the public to tell them what they are looking for and that the focus of the discussion should not be too broad, but rather focuses on the Needs Assessment at first.

Mr. Greeley agreed that there needs to be a centralized focus and that the Public Outreach Committee will officially meet before the CPC's next meeting to give a more formal update.

Other Business

Mr. Hall began a brief discussion of the Needs Assessment draft done by Mr. McFarland. Mr. Hall had done a few edits of the draft and informed the rest of the Committee of the work he had done.

Mr. Deschenes and Mr. Halkiotis discussed the recent letter from the Norfolk Registry of Deeds. The letter addressed Community Preservation Trust Fund money raised from recorded real estate fillings for each Town in Norfolk County during the 2017 Calendar year. After discussing the letter with Community Preservation Coalition Assistant Director Alison Leary, it was determined that all figures raised were added to the Fund and would be split evenly based on the percentage which is determined in the fall of 2018.

Additional brief discussion was held regarding adding new documents to the CPC's page on the Town's website.

MOTION to Adjourn made by Mr. Greeley, seconded by Ms. Donohue. All in favor

Respectfully Submitted:
Patrick Deschenes, Assistant Town Planner