

Community Preservation Committee

John Hall, Chairman
Peter McFarland, Vice Chairman
John J. Aprea III, Treasurer
Helen Abdallah Donohue
Cheryl Doyle
Toni Eosco
Joseph Greeley
Debbie Holmwood
Patricia Griffin Starr



**Director of Community
Planning and Economic
Development**

Paul Halkiotis, AICP

Assistant Planner

Patrick Deschenes

Community Preservation Committee Meeting

1/22/2020

5:30 P.M.

Room 24

Norwood Town Hall, 566 Washington Street

PRESENT:

John Aprea
Cheryl Doyle
Joe Greeley
John Hall
Peter McFarland
Toni Eosco
Patricia Griffin Starr
Debbie Holmwood
Helen Abdallah Donohue

Also Present:

Patrick Deschenes, Assistant Town Planner

ABSENT: Paul Halkiotis, Town Planner

CPA Project Review and Discussion – Old Parish Cemetery Master Plan

The applicant for this project is the Old Parish Cemetery Volunteers, a local non-profit who are represented by Ms. Patricia Fanning, President.

Ms. Fanning gave an overview of the cemetery itself and the work their group has been doing to date.

Ms. Fanning explained the need for the Master Plan as it would help guide the group in partnership with the Town's DPW to maintain and rehabilitate the cemetery as both a historically significant location, a resting place to the Town's early residents, and a centrally located piece of open space.

Ms. Holmwood asked if the project would only be for a master plan and what the qualifications were of the company that provided the quote.

Ms. Fanning stated that the company has done similar master plans throughout the area, including the historic Mount Auburn Cemetery in nearby Dedham. Ms. Fanning explained that this plan will provide a professional standpoint of what work is needed.

Mr. Hall asked who would be responsible for maintenance. Ms. Fanning stated the DPW would be the Town department responsible and that Commissioner, Mark Ryan had provided a letter of support.

Ms. Donohue asked how many graves were there on the site. Ms. Fanning stated that there were around 800 people buried on the site.

Ms. Doyle asked if the bodies were stacked. Ms. Fanning stated she was not sure, but they had records of all those buried there.

Mr. McFarland asked Ms. Fanning if she had spoken to Ms. Carney yet about the project's quote. Ms. Fanning stated that she had not.

Mr. Greeley stated that Ms. Fanning needs to keep in mind the bidding process for the project. Mr. Greeley stated that Ms. Fanning should reach out to Dedham and Mount Auburn Cemetery to find out how the process went for them.

Ms. Eosco asked if benches would be expected and if the area would be turned more into a park. Ms. Fanning stated that the master plan will likely include benches to some extent.

Mr. Greeley asked Ms. Fanning if her group will look into rehabbing the East Walpole Cemetery as well. Ms. Fanning stated that was a possibility.

Mr. McFarland asked Ms. Fanning to explain the project quote as it was different than the application. Ms. Fanning stated that they would not go with the priced out 3D graphic view of the cemetery as proposed by the consultant. This was the reason for the difference in price from the quote and the application request.

Mr. Hall stated that the Committee will go through Mr. Deschenes with setting up a tour of the cemetery.

Long Term Scheduling

Mr. Hall stated his concern from the last meeting which would be to reevaluate the CPC's application procedure and make sure that all potential projects were properly vetted with all applicable Town entities before the CPC reviewed the application.

Mr. Hall stated this all stemmed from the Morse House application which needs to be approved by the Selectmen first before any sort of funding can go towards the project.

Mr. McFarland stated they also need to sell the project to Town Meeting and that whatever route is taken needs to be planned out beforehand and agreed upon by all applicable parties.

Ms. Holwood stated that the maintenance of the Morse House had up to now had been undertaken by volunteers and that those volunteers would be needed for the building's future as well.

Ms. Eosco stated that the Historical Commission was scheduled to meet with the Selectmen and would be looking for support on the study needed for the Morse House project.

MOTION to adjourn the meeting by Mr. McFarland, seconded by Ms. Doyle.

All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted:

Patrick Deschenes, Assistant Town Planner