

## Stockbridge Community Preservation Committee Meeting Minutes

3 March 2022

Stockbridge Town Hall, 4:00pm

Present: Sally Underwood-Miller [presiding], Jay Bikofsky, Linda Jackson, Tom Stokes, Carole Owens, Patrick White

Also present: Michael Canales, Arthur Dutil, Jim Welch, Kevin Chittenden, Bronly Boyd, Carl Bradford, Shelby Marshall, Ellen Spear, Kate Fletcher, Pat Flinn, Shirley Blanchard, Laurie Norton Moffatt, Karen Marshall, Roxanne McCaffery, Andrea Lindsay

The committee met via Zoom and in person to review and, perhaps, vote on which projects should be referred to Town Meeting for approval as time allows. The meeting began with a review of Town Counsel's recommendations. Three projects were considered unsupportable under the tenets of the CPA – the Town's proposal for an Historical education plan, The Kamposa Bog hydrological assessment (which would have necessitated the creation of a Conservation Restriction to qualify under CPA), and the Kamposa Bog document digitization. Next, Linda Jackson reviewed the eight projects submitted under historic preservation based on the recommendations from the Town's Historical Commission. There were some questions and clarifications.

Patrick White made a motion to recommend the distribution of \$4999 from the Administrative fund for the historic structure report for the Norman Rockwell Museum's Linwood House and outlying buildings.

The Committee requested some further information regarding the work needed for the Glendale Fire Station. Siding and windows will need to be replaced, and there is rot around the lower part of the building. Prioritization of the work needs clarification.

Next the Committee reviewed the last stages of the plans to restore the Cat and Dog Fountain. The bottom tier is beyond repair, and must be replaced. The cost for that will be approximately \$7500. An architectural drawing will be required to restore the second tier. The marble rim is in good repair, but must be stored while the work is being done. Tom Stokes recused himself from the deliberations. Patrick White made a motion to recommend the requested \$40000 be approved at Town Meeting. Gary Pitney seconded. Motion passed.

Tom Valasko and Kevin Chittenden represented the Berkshire Scenic Railway Museum. The Committee had questions about the future plans for the Stockbridge Station. There was concern that the building would be used for private parties and weddings and would not be available to the public. The Committee was assured that any profits would go to preserve the building and support the museum and that there would be events and activities open to the public. The plan is to replace/restore the vintage lighting, replace the roof with the original materials of copper shingles, and replace the deteriorated stone apron, along with handicap access. There are photos from the 1930s that would appear to be the apron is the same.

The Committee reiterated its opinion that the First Congregational Church building is an important part of the history of the Town. As such, regardless of the activities that may happen inside, this building should be preserved. The building known as the Jonathan Edwards room is used for many non-religious purposes and community gatherings. In order to retain the functionality of this part of the building, the ADA access must be addressed.

The Stockbridge Library has received a gift of a peace pipe from the Stockbridge Munsee tribe. In order to preserve it properly, an archival shadow box needs to be created. Patrick White made a motion to recommend the approval of the \$2712.62 to construct the shadowbox to Town Meeting. Linda Jackson seconded. Unanimous.

Pat Flinn described the work the Laurel Hill Association would like to undertake at Upper Bowker's Woods. This property has been let go for some time. Part of its uniqueness is the vernal pool that sustains, among other things, a significant population of the endangered species Jefferson Salamander. The salamanders cross the road to the pool on the Norman Rockwell side of Rte. 183, often resulting in their being run over by traffic. It is hoped that some kind of corridor or signage can be created as part of this project to protect their habitat and migration. Included in the project is signage and a small parking area.

The Town Parks and Recreation committee would like to remove some of the invasive phragmites and make room for an additional kayak launch at the Town Beach. This will require a filing with the Conservation Commission.

Parks and Recreation is also requesting funding for a kayak access to the river at Park Street. Stones will be placed in the river that boaters can walk on. This will also require a filing with the Conservation Commission.

Ice Glen's Old Growth Forest is being decimated by invasive insects – the Woolly Adelgid and the Emerald Ash Borer. The Town is proposing to use injectable insecticide to save the trees before all are lost. Many of the trees are already diseased and doing quite poorly. Biological remediation may be explored for future controls.

Jay Bikofsky presented the Committee with the Declaration of Purpose for the Housing Trust. This project will allow for various methods of supporting moderate income housing for young families and working people by providing down payment assistance, among other kinds of financial assistance.

The Friends of Gould Meadows are requesting funding under Recreation to continue the clearing of invasive species, to a stone wall to better mark the perimeter of the parking lot, and finish up the restoration of the milk shed.

Jay Bikofsky made a motion to recommend approval of the request for \$70000 to make the driveway to Pine Woods functional. The creation of the Pine Woods is one of the CPC's earliest projects. Patrick White seconded. Unanimous.

Gary Pitney made a motion to recommend the Stockbridge Housing Authority's request for \$33,529 to complete the replacement of the siding. Carole Owens seconded. Unanimous.

Gary Pitney made a motion to recommend to Town Meeting to approve \$125000 for the Housing Trust. \$110000 will come from this year's funding. \$67000 will come from the Affordable Housing reserve, and \$52000 will be taken from the general fund reserves. Carole Owens seconded. Unanimous.

As the time was getting late, and it appeared the Committee would need another meeting to finalize deliberation, an additional meeting was scheduled for 3/9 at 10am.

The meeting adjourned at 6:15.

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Respectfully submitted,  
Sally Underwood-Miller, Chair