

# Stockbridge Community Preservation Committee Meeting Minutes

9 March 2022

Stockbridge Town Hall, 4:00pm

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

Also present: Michael Canales, Kevin Chittenden, Carl Bradford, Shelby Marshall, Deb Hall

The committee met via Zoom and in person to review and vote on which projects should be referred to Town Meeting for approval.

The meeting began with a review of revised accounting reports indicating that the CPC is well funded. We are grateful to Town Manager Michael Canales and Cheryl Allen for taking on this task. After a review of these documents, and a comparison of the spreadsheet created by the Chair, the Committee proceeded to consider the remaining items not voted on at the 3/3 meeting.

Concerns regarding the project as proposed by the Berkshire Scenic Railway having been put to rest, Gary Pitney made a motion to recommend the \$15000 requested to restore the apron and install an ADA handicap ramp at the Stockbridge Station under Historic Preservation. Tom Stokes seconded. Unanimous.

Reiterating the Committee's position that the preservation of the First Congregational Church Jonathan Edwards annex is allowable as the statute stands as the building is an important historic landmark for the town as well as being a gathering place for various community groups regardless of any religious activities that may be conducted within, Patrick White made a motion to approve the recommendation of \$100000 to provide ADA handicap access under Historic Preservation. Tom Stokes seconded. Unanimous.

Pending review, clarification and approval by the Finance Committee, Gary Pitney made a motion to approve the recommendation of up to the \$37500 requested for the restoration of the Glendale Fire Station. The FinComm will review which parts of the proposed work will constitute Historic Preservation, and what will be maintenance. Patrick White seconded. Unanimous.

Patrick White made a motion to postpone the funding of the Ice Glen interpretive sign for next year. Gary Pitney seconded. Unanimous.

Gary Pitney made a motion to recommend funding of the rehabilitation of the Laurel Hill Association's Upper Bowker's Woods property. Patrick White seconded. Unanimous. It is hoped that LHA will undertake some stewardship of the well-being of the endangered species Jefferson Salamander that resides in the vernal pool on the property. Since LHA has been a partner with the Town for more than 100 years, the concern regarding public access seems to be moot.

Gary Pitney made a motion to recommend approval of the \$15000 requested by the Town to construct a kayak/canoe launch at the Park Street location. The launch will place stone steps allowing easy access to this scenic part of the Housatonic River. The previously approved launch proved unsuccessful, as the rise and fall of the river damaged the unit. Carole Owens seconded. Unanimous.

Tom Stokes made a motion to recommend approval of the \$20000 to improve access, remove invasive species and install the kayak/canoe launch currently in storage for use at the Town Beach, providing that an additional sign be installed stating that only permitted boats may be launched from this location. The rack will be available by permit to residents and second homeowners. Gary Pitney seconded. Tom Stokes made an amendment to the motion that the permit require that applicants assure their boats are free of nuisance aquatic critters in addition to the requirement that the boats will remain at the location for the season and that the Town be indemnified for damage. Carole Owens seconded the amendment. Voting was unanimous on both recommendations.

Gary Pitney made a motion to recommend \$85000 for the injection treatment of invasive species insects (Emerald Ash Borer and Woolly Adelgid) in the old growth portion of Ice Glen. Carole Owens seconded. Unanimous.

Carole Owens made a motion to recommend \$10000 be set aside for the Administrative Fund for the Committee to use at its discretion to inform future decisions on projects. This might include an engineering, feasibility or structural study, among others. Jay Bikofsky seconded. Unanimous.

Patrick White made a motion to recommend an additional allotment of \$100000 be added to the Town's Housing Trust. Sally Underwood-Miller seconded. The vote

was 2 in favor, 5 opposed. The motion did not carry. Members felt that the CPC should retain more flexibility to respond to unanticipated requests.

The Chair thanked the members for their work well done.

The meeting adjourned at 11:35am.

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Respectfully submitted,  
Sally Underwood-Miller, Chair