

Stockbridge Fountain Committee

Minutes from December 9, 2020

The meeting was posted as required by MA Open Meeting Law at the Town Hall and on the town website. A recording of the meeting was posted on ctsbtv.com.

Meeting commenced: 3:36 p.m.

Meeting adjourned: 4:06 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Carl Sprague, Kate Fletcher, Bob Jones, GeGe Kingston

Also present: Mike Canales (Town Administrator) Mike Buffoni (Superintendent, Water Dept)

- 1) Minutes from December 4, 2020 were reviewed. Carl made a motion to approve the minutes, Bob seconded the motion and all voted in favor of approving the minutes by roll-call vote.
- 2) Kate displayed the three bids. The Committee had previously reviewed the bids but Kate suggested now would be the time to make any additional comments. Carl noted the lower bid proposed by Jeff Gulick of Timberwolf and that Jeff is "remarkably qualified and local." Bob added that he agreed with Carl and that working with Timberwolf would give the town flexibility. GeGe said she was all for what the Committee decides, Timberwolf sounded fine. Kate liked the fact that Timberwolf is located in Housatonic and felt that as work proceeded, the close proximity would facilitate making artistic and other decisions. Carl stressed that just because Jeff is local does not mean he is not world-class; he has done some spectacular work. Committee members agreed that they were ready to make a motion and vote.

Bob made a motion to award the contract for the sculpture and restoration work to Timberwolf, Carl seconded the motion and all voted in favor of the motion by roll-call vote.

- 3) Committee members reviewed and discussed the list of non-restoration work. Mike Canales mentioned that as much as possible of this work will be done by town staff and that we need to get some estimates on masonry work so that the Committee can seek additional Community Preservation Act funds. Anything under \$10,000, we can use sound business practices. Anything over that amount and MA General Law procurement requirements kick in. GeGe expressed concern that the non-restoration work was separated out from the restoration work. Kate reviewed the genesis of the approach which was informed by the work-to-date and points to two components of the project – restoration of sculptures and restoration of more functional components such as basin masonry and water needs. The thinking of the Committee was to proceed with restoration, which involves moving the Cat and Dog to Timberwolf's studio, at which point the other components of the

project can be addressed in the spring. Costs were reviewed again; recirculation costs had previously been removed.

Carl asked about the state code for water depth, Bob said that is 26". Bob suggested that we may need to raise the bottom of the basin in order to meet the state code. We will need to keep an eye on this in order to avoid the requirement for fencing around the fountain.

The Town Christmas tree is close by. To protect the tree, Mike Buffoni suggested we keep Peter Curtin, the town tree warden, in the loop. Kate will also touch base with Marc Volk regarding the electric utility, locating that such that it does not damage the tree.

Mike Buffoni asked for clarification on town work - water line and water meters as opposed to masonry and concrete work which would not be their bailiwick. All agreed that masonry work would be a separate skill set. Kate thought that the process would be somewhat iterative as they proceed with work, learning more about conditions on-site.

- Bob will contact Stu Lambert regarding capstones
- Kate will contact Marc regarding protecting the town Christmas tree

Fountain cover: It was agreed to leave it on for the winter in order to protect the Cat and Dog from the elements.

Kate made a motion to adjourn, Bob seconded the motion and all voted in favor of adjourning.

Respectfully submitted,
Kate Fletcher
December 16, 2020

Meeting Documents:

- 1) Bid summary sheet
- 2) List of non-restoration work