

Stockbridge Community Preservation Committee Meeting Agenda
4 February 2020
Stockbridge Town Hall, 5:00pm

Present: Sally Underwood-Miller [presiding], Chuck Gillett, Linda Jackson, Steve Knopf, Carole Owens, Jay Bikofsky, Gary Pitney, Bill Vogt

Also present: Venus VanNess and Pam Knisley (Norman Rockwell Museum); Arthur Dutil and Ron Brouker (Friends of Gould Meadows); Mark Wilson (Trustees of Reservations); Andrea Lindsay and Jim Welch (Stockbridge Housing Authority)

All proposals were submitted to Town Counsel for comment and recommendations. In addition, all were reviewed by the Stockbridge Historical Commission for compliance with the Secretary's requirements under Historic Preservation.

After reviewing the recommendations, and discussing cautionary aspects of the reviews, the Committee voted as follows to recommend to Town Meeting funding from the Community Preservation monies:

As is customary, the Committee voted to set aside \$10,000 for the FY21 Administrative Fund.

Chuck Gillett made a motion to recommend \$20,000 for the restoration and stucco replacement of the French residence chimneys. Steve Knopf seconded. Unanimous.

Jay Bikofsky made a motion to recommend \$20,000 for the digitizing of Norman Rockwell's business correspondence. This correspondence will be available to the public at large, as well as Town residents, through the museum's website under the archives heading. Gary Pitney seconded. Unanimous.

Jay Bikofsky informed the Committee that the Finance Committee had withdrawn the funding of the Civil War Monument restoration until a comprehensive and acceptable plan was received and approved. Discussion ensued regarding the recreation of the original fencing as depicted in the photographs. The Chair will recommend that Laurel Hill suspend planting around the monument until repairs can be made. Proximity to the monument by plants and flowers contributes to the moisture that contributes to the deterioration of the monument. Gary Pitney made a motion to recommend that \$50,000 be allocated for use when the funding package for the project has been presented and approved by the Board of Selectmen. Carole Owens seconded. Unanimous.

Bill Vogt made a motion to approve the recommendation of \$40,000 for the archaeological investigation of the 1783 site of the Ox Roast event as well as the homesite of Mohican "King" Solomon. The Ox Roast was sponsored by George Washington to thank the tribe for their support and service during the Revolutionary War. Chuck Gillett seconded. Unanimous.

Linda Jackson lauded the completion of the restoration of the north porch at Naumkeag. Carole Owens made a motion to recommend the requested \$9500 to Town Meeting. Bill Vogt seconded. Unanimous.

Carole Owens recommended the allocation of \$4500 from the FY20 Administration Fund to be used by the Berkshire Botanical Garden for the beginning stages of creating their master plan. Chuck Gillett seconded. Unanimous.

The Town is applying for a grant from the Mass Historical Commission to finish the survey of properties in town that are more than 50 years old. The East Street properties that may be affected by potential highway projects have not been documented. Linda Jackson made a motion to use \$4500 from the FY20 Administration fund for this purpose. Chuck Gillett seconded. Unanimous.

Acknowledging that the paving of the upper part of the Bullard Woods driveway would be a capital improvement, Steve Knopf made a motion to recommend approval of \$10,835 for the project. Chuck Gillett seconded. Unanimous.

The work being done at Gould Meadows to restore the meadow to its original state was deemed to be restoration rather than maintenance. The importance of Gould Meadows to recreation and aesthetics in Town is unparalleled. Therefore Carole Owens made a motion to recommend the sum of \$18,850 requested for the work under Open Space and Recreation be considered at Town Meeting. Chuck Gillett seconded. Unanimous.

Bill Vogt made a motion to recommend \$69,640 be submitted to Town Meeting for approval for the completion of the roof project on buildings B, C and E at Heaton Court. Steve Knopf seconded. Unanimous.

Jay Bikofsky presented his thoughts on developing a community housing trust for first time home buyers and elderly in Town. The project was enthusiastically and unanimously endorsed.

Respectfully submitted,
Sally Underwood-Miller, Chair
Community Preservation Committee