

Community Preservation Committee (CPC) Public Input
Meeting and Hearings - May 9, 2017
City of Waltham, Massachusetts
CPC Office, 119 School Street, Waltham, MA 02451

Recorder: William W. Durkee Jr., CPA Program Manager, Waltham
Community Preservation Committee (CPC)

A. Call to Order at 7:00 PM

Called to order by Chair Diana Young. WCAC (Waltham Community
Access Channel) video recorded the Meeting.

B. Roll Call by Clerk Melnechuk.

Present: Chair Diana Young, Tom Creonte, Dan Melnechuk, Justin
Barrett, Bob LeBlanc. Absent: Sean Wilson, Jerry Dufromont, Kevin
Dwyer, one position vacant. Program Manager: William Durkee -present.
A Quorum was declared present. Any action to be approved will need a
unanimous vote of the five present members.

C. Minutes - Clerk.

Minutes of the April 11, 2017 CPC Special Meeting. A Motion was made to
accept the Minutes as presented. The Motion was seconded, and passed
unanimously.

D. New Business - Chair

1. Applications and Hearings

a. Waltham Historical Commission (WHC) Historic Stone Walls

Marie Daly, Chair of the Historic Inventory Sub-Committee, WHC. The
Waltham City Council Committee of Economic & Community Development
requested that the WHC survey all of the historic stone walls in the
City. The City Council wants to create an ordinance to protect the
remaining walls. Currently the State fine for removing an historic wall
is \$10. Theft of such walls is common because they are attractive. As it
would require many years to survey the walls, the WHC decided to start
with a few parcels. These have vulnerable locations are close to roads
and parking lots. GPS surveys would be used to collect more accurate
data and photograph the walls as a deterrent. Prospect Hill, Shady's
Pond (to include the Waltham Housing Authority (WHA), Chester Brook, and
alongside the Northeast School [School Department]), and the Mackerel
Hill areas were selected. All of the landowners, including the Elsie
Turner Park (Recreation Department) and DCR (Department of Conservation
& Recreation) have cooperated and support the project. MS Aerials Co.
(MSA) was contacted to determine whether drones could be used for the

GPS (ground position of longitude and latitude coordinates) survey and simultaneously photographing the walls. Their initial estimate was \$16,000 during a period when there was minimal foliage. MSA determined that they would also need a ground survey, placing GPS units along the walls. Some cost cutting might be possible using student interns and WHC volunteers with an accurate City GPS.

The CPC suggested combining the photos done by MSA as sufficiently accurate as a "benchmark" during favorable weather thereby removing any added costs until additional evidence is needed. The WHC has submitted a draft ordinance to the City Council Committee of Economic & Community Development similar to towns such as Stoughton and the State of New Hampshire. The fine would be \$300 initially and continuing daily until the wall is returned. Enforcement would be by the Police. The walls would be publicized to encourage residents to take pride and protect the walls. Signs in the parks at the walls may be helpful. About 50 walls, 30 in Prospect Hill Park alone, and a total of 1700 feet in length have been identified.

A motion was made to recommend \$50,000 for the surveys of the parcels as described in the Application, seconded, and passed unanimously by roll call vote with five in favor and none in dissent.

D. New Business - Chair

2. Outcome from the Public Informational Hearing April 11. The list was provided at the previous CPC Meeting.

3. Vote to roll over spending on projects to FY18 per the Auditor's request. The Auditors office requested the action be taken at the last meeting of the CPC in June. She requested a list of the CPC projects to be closed or continued. The Bright School, Paine Estate Roof Design, and the WHA Rental Vouchers are now finished. The Hardy Pond Lands have been identified which need to be protected. The Law Department has suggested a way for the City to acquire six properties on the periphery of Hardy Pond for Open Space or by obtaining conservation restrictions from the owners. After walking the land with the Chair, Ed Bowler gave an estimate of \$6,200 for the appraisals. The lots were described as 'tiny' and un-buildable, separated from the owners' home by a road, but having a clear sight line to Hardy Pond from the homes. The City owns one of the 7 lots

A motion was made to allot up to \$7,000 from the CPC Administrative funds for appraisal of properties around Hardy Pond as described in the Hardy Pond Application, seconded, and passed unanimously by voice vote with five in favor and none in dissent.

E. Old Business - Chair

1. Budget Discussion/Finances - (Chair). Approved by the

Long Term Debt Committee and later the City Council. A handout of the CPC Finances shows about \$19,050,000 available less the \$50,000 approved tonight. (One page, attached).

2. Conservation Restrictions (CR's) (Chair)

A motion was made to approve the Chair to meet with the City Solicitor's office for the purpose of agreeing on standard language for open space conservation restrictions, seconded, and passed unanimously by vote with five in favor and none in dissent.

3. Historic Restrictions (HR's) - (Chair) The Catholic Diocese approved the language which will be used for the Sacred Heart Application. It was sent to the Law Department for final approval. The final HR must wait for the photographs of the finished work to document what is done in the Agreement for the restriction to be signed and sent to the Registry of Deeds.

4. Quarterly Reports - Program Manager. The information due June 30 will be requested earlier for the CPC June meeting.

5. Status of Appropriated CPC Projects - Program Manager. Provided during the previous Meeting.

F. Announcements/Correspondence - The MCPPO (Mass IG Office) Tuition Free Training meeting was scheduled. If CPC members planned to go the Chair requested to try to coordinate transportation.

G. Good of the Committee. Chair

1. PLAN updates (none)

2. Next regularly scheduled CPC Meeting/Hearing was changed to Tuesday, June 6 to leave time for sending items to the Council before the summer break.

3. FY 2018 Proposed meeting schedule. The copy provided (one page, attached) must be confirmed for the calendar year 2018 CPC Meetings as it is the prerogative of the 2018 Council and its president to approve its meeting dates. It was suggested that the CPC Meetings be moved to the Government Center Public Meeting Room or the Auditorium. The Program Manager will seek to have the first three fall meetings in the Public Meeting Room in the first or second Tuesday of each month.

H. Adjourn. A Motion was made to adjourn, seconded, and passed with a voice vote without dissent.

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