

Community Preservation Committee

March 28, 2017

Police Station Conference Room

1. Call to Order

Chair Mike Dissette called a regular meeting of the Community Preservation Committee to order at 7:03 p.m.

2. Roll Call

In attendance were members Mike Dissette, Jane Healey, Paul O'Brien, Don Little, Paul Healy, Jim McCarthy, Sarah White, Dan Koen and Steve Sawyer. Also in attendance was Kate Newhall-Smith.

3. FY 2018 Application Presentations for Community Preservation Funds

This is the first of three meetings at which applicants will summarize their grant requests and answer questions from the committee members. Deliberations on the applications are scheduled for June 13.

Open Space Reserve Fund

Newburyport Open Space Committee

\$150,000

Mike Frey requested that \$150,000 be added to the open space reserve fund in order that adequate resources might be available when a desirable property is offered for sale. The fund currently contains \$430,000. It was last used in 2014 to purchase land on Curzon Mill Road near Maudslay State Park.

Community Building Rehabilitation

Newburyport Housing Authority

\$129,500

Tracy Watson, executive director of the Newburyport Housing Authority, said funds are being requested for the expansion of the Kelleher Gardens Community Center. The design phase of the project has been completed and funds are now being sought for construction. The community building would allow for an expansion of the educational and recreational opportunities offered to the residents and would help build a sense of community. The 42 units in the complex house approximately 200 residents.

Affordable Housing Trust Fund

Newburyport Affordable Housing Trust

\$100,000

Judy Tymon, chair of the Newburyport Affordable Housing Trust, said three applications totaling \$250,000 have been submitted for affordable housing projects. She said market forces are creating a housing crisis in the city. There is a lack of rental housing and a growing gap between the incomes of renters and homeowners. She said 9.5% of the children under 18 in the city live in poverty. Between 2010 and 2015, 152 rental units were lost. The monthly rent is

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over \$1,500 for 43.2% of the units. The grant money requested would augment the fund that allows the Trust to work with developers to create affordable units.

**Newburyport High School Exterior Woodwork Restoration
Newburyport Public Schools
\$174,610**

Steve Bergholm said funds are being sought for the third phase of the project to restore the exterior woodwork on the high school. The total cost of the phase is \$188,610. The balance would be covered by the \$14,000 that remains from the CPA grant for the project's second phase. The work on the front façade has been completed. The requested funds would be used for the restoration of the cupola, which has experienced significant deterioration over the past few years. Mr. Bergholm said the capital improvement plan should be revised to include painting. The existing condition report was prepared in 2012. The cost estimate contains allowances for unforeseen conditions and takes in account that conditions might have changed since that time. The committee requested that Mr. Bergholm provide a more detailed cost estimate.

4. General Business

Minutes

Paul Healy moved to approve the minutes of the February 28, 2017 meeting as submitted. Don Little seconded the motion. The motion was approved with Jim McCarthy abstaining.

Meeting Schedule

The next meeting of the Community Preservation Committee will take place on Tuesday, April 25 at 7:00 p.m. in the Police Station conference room. The May 9 meeting will take place in the City Hall auditorium.

5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.