

Community Preservation Committee
October 24, 2017
Police Station Conference Room
Minutes

1. Call to Order

Chair Mike Dissette called a regular meeting of the Community Preservation Committee to order at 7:05 p.m.

2. Roll Call

In attendance were Mike Dissette, Don Little, Paul Healy, Dan Koen and Joe Lamb. Jane Healey, Sarah White and Steve Sawyer were absent.

3. Annual Public Meeting

The Community Preservation Committee is required by law to hold an annual meeting at which input or questions are taken from the public on the needs, possibilities and resources of the City for the acquisition and preservation of open space and recreational resources, historic resources and affordable housing. Mike Dissette explained the way in which the CPC functions to the members of the public that attended the meeting. A local surcharge on property taxes is combined with a percentage of the funds received from transactions at the Registry of Deeds to award grants for projects in the categories of open space and recreation, the preservation of historic resources and affordable housing. Many of the applications are for City-related projects, while others are from non-profit agencies and historic churches. A permanent preservation restriction is placed on structures for which CPA funds have been awarded. The Committee is comprised of nine members: three at-large members and one from of each of the Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Open Space Committee, Housing Authority, Historical Commission and Parks Commission. Between 12 and 22 applications are received each year, with requests ranging from \$2,000 to \$1,000,000. Applications are due in February and deliberations typically take place in March and April. In May or June the Committee makes a recommendation to the City Council on the way in which the grant money should be allocated.

4. Minutes

Dan Koen moved to approve the minutes of the August 22, 2017 meeting as submitted. Paul Healy seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

5. General Business

The deadline for applications for the next grant cycle has been set at February 8, 2018. The application form will be revised to add the amount requested to the front page. An informational packet on preservation restrictions will be added to applications for historic preservation projects. This will give applicants an opportunity to include additional funds for the drafting of the preservation restriction in their grant request.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m.