

## **Community Preservation Committee**

March 10, 2020

Senior Center Board Room

Minutes

### **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 Mike Dissette, Mark Rosen, Paul Healy, Ron Ziemba, Dan Koen, Don Little, Karen Popken, and Jane Healey.

Katelyn Sullivan from the Planning Office was also present.

### **3. Welcome, Overview, and Updates from the Chair**

Chair Mike advised Applicants for grant recommendation will be given the opportunity to present information and allow an open dialog as needed for their projects.

### **4. FY 2021 Application Presentations for Community Preservation Funds**

#### **Down Payment Assistance**

##### **Newburyport Affordable Housing Trust**

\$150,000

Presented by Judy Tymon- Chair of Affordable Housing Trust

Committee members posed various questions on how price is determined, who pays for consultants, how is cost of unit determined, advertisement, and tracking of units for availability.

Applicant review and responses:

- Requested changes to the initial submission. Dow payment assistance increase to max \$25,000 due to increase in Real Estate prices. Mainly related to 3 bedroom units.
- Applicants to supply some of own funding
- Units sold to those with 80% or below of median income
- Hud determines for country the median income
- Explained process of keeping track of unit availability. Owner required to notify DHCD when moving.
- Advertisement part of the marketing package.

#### **Bartlet Mall Historic Restoration- Northwest**

##### **Newburyport Parks Department & Commission**

\$100,000

Presented by Lise Reid

Brought display board of project area (provided in submission package)

Committee posed questions about the land layout/steepness of areas, how it will appeal to every child, and handicap accessibility to the location.

Applicant review and responses:

- Preliminary drawings
- Project includes talking with parents, as well as designers with experience in integrating playgrounds for children of all abilities.
- Basketball court mostly completed
- 10% for playground build
- \$7k donation— cannot cover design
- Active parent group raising money for all inclusive playground; children of all abilities.
- All pieces of project go together and rely on each other
- Park grant- will find out about next fall if it will cover the playground itself
- Pond St. end is handicap accessible from lower walkway, TBD on making it truly handicap accessible from other points.
- Containment is also being addressed

**WITHDRAWN: Clipper City Rail Trail Repairs**  
**Newburyport Parks Department & Commission**  
\$50,020

Mike Dissette referred to an email from the Parks Department advising of the application withdrawal for Clipper City Rail Trail Repairs.

Read from email sent by Director of Planning Office Andy Port.

Mike Dissette referred to email exchange with Community Preservation Coalition and Parks Department. Email reviews feedback of eligibility purchasing and dealing with tree roots. Response from email; Application has been withdrawn. Withdraw repairs for Coalition (read email). Equipment and maintenance not covered by funds. No date required at this time.

**Perkins Park Shade**  
**Newburyport Parks Department & Commission**  
\$12,062.25

Presented by Lise Reid

Committee posed questions on cost, type of materials, size and shade it will provide, maintenance, and weather resistance. Suggestions made to go higher cost more permanent piece, without as many maintenance issues and to budget some money for replacement parts as these funds can not cover it.

Applicant review and responses:

- Necessity of shade needed, using Summer program as an example as well as everyday kids playing
- Plan to install shade structure (no water features).
- Umbrellas that do not come down (open/shut); can be removed in winter for storage
- Vinyl material. Information obtained to support material can withstand Newburyport wind load.

- Parks Department will need to take it down/put it up seasonally
- May need to add more in the future to provide additional shade

**Heritage Tree Preservation**  
**Proprietors of Oak Hill Cemetery**  
 \$10,000

Presented by Ghlee Woodworth

Applicant review and responses:

- 30 acres large- private cemetery
- Oak Hill small endowment; not able to create a lot of funds; breaking even.
- \$6k received over last few years is taking care of trees.
- Urgent situation with trees that need to go
- Listed many items cared for by Ghlee Woodworth and Superintendent Jimmy such as caring for branches and trees that come down (lower limbs as can't climb trees), digging and watering trees, removing tops of trees to allow trunks to remain as housing to animals/birds
- Confirmed active burials and headstone restoral/repairs still conducted

**First Guardians Statue**  
**Lighthouse Preservation Society**  
 \$80,000

Presented by Jim Hyland

Committee posed questions on location, purpose of statue and figures designated to appear, who has been contacted for assistance, and guidance to present a more completed request. Mike Dissette also read email addressing concerns from Director of Planning Office, Andy Port.

Applicant review and responses:

- 2 yrs. ago had contest for statue. Got it down to 1 sculptor.
- Held discussions with Coast Guard; recommend the statue include heroes of the agencies. Something more impactful.
- Coast Guard connection with Newburyport and what the City has done so far. 1958 picture done; text monument; set off from main walkway with nothing to attract to it. Another monument in the City but it is in poor condition, can't read the text. The newest monument by the CG station is tucked away with inaccurate dates.
- Would like to put a statue that is interesting to draw people in at a central location. Possibly the Sculpture Park.
- Statue to have back and front (see diagrams)
- Historical figures selected for connection to Coast Guard rather than connection to Newburyport.
- Back of statue will have ties to Newburyport
- Group consists of First Guardians; Lighthouse Preservation Society in Dover, and various others.
- Estimated cost of full figure is up to \$400k, and for lesser project up to \$80k (plan B)

Suggestions from Committee:

- Reach out to Waterfront Trust
- Secure a location for the project. Location seeking is most desired spot in City.
- Reach out to the Mayor for community support
- May want to include some Newburyport figures in the design
- Reach out to the Planning Office

## **5. Upcoming Schedule**

Mike Dissette reviewed upcoming meetings:

- Next Application Review Meeting: 3/24/20 – Police Station Conference Room
- Deliberation Meeting: 4/28/20, Police Station Conference Room

## **6. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned by Mike Dissette at 8:23p.