

## **Community Preservation Committee**

September 22, 2015

Police Station Conference Room

Minutes

### **1. Call to Order**

Chair Mike Dissette called a regular meeting of the Community Preservation Committee to order at 7:09 p.m.

### **2. Roll Call**

In attendance were members Mike Dissette, Don Little, Judith Grohe, Paul Healy, Leah McGavern and Jane Healey. Also in attendance was Kate Newhall-Smith.

### **3. General Business**

Paul Healy moved to approve the minutes of the May 26, 2015 meeting. Judith Grohe seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

### **4. Staff Update**

Bob Uhlig resigned from the Parks Commission and Linda Smiley resigned from the Historical Commission. The first reading for the appointment of Sarah White as the NHC representative should take place at the September 28 City Council meeting. Steve Sawyer may perhaps join the Committee as the representative of the Parks Commission. The City Council must designate CPC members as special municipal employees in order for Mr. Sawyer to be able to appear before other City boards as required by his work while serving on the Committee.

The only revision needed to the grant application form is a change to the dates.

The CP-3 report for the State has been completed. The State surplus will be announced sometime after October 1 and would be paid on November 15.

The annual meeting will be held on October 27. Dianne Boisvert will place a legal notice in the *Daily News* and Kate Newhall-Smith will prepare a press release. It is likely the November and December meetings would be cancelled.

### **5. Project Updates**

#### **Masonic Building Restoration**

Mike Dissette is optimistic the Massachusetts Historic Commission and the Board of the Masonic Temple would soon reach an understanding on the preservation restriction for the hall. He said the Board would accept a restriction on the front and sides of the historic structure. They wish to retain the right to add windows to the rear of the structure, which is an addition and should not be included in the restriction.

#### **Moseley Woods Wall**

The Friends of Moseley has disbanded and a new group has not yet been formed. Due to the construction of the rotary, it might not be possible to build the wall as proposed in the grant application. The amount of time that has passed makes it likely the project would now be more expensive to complete. The CPC has the authority to retract the funds if they have not been used

within a year and made subject to renewal. The item will be placed on the agenda for discussion at the October 27 meeting.

**Green Street Tree Planting**

The planting of the trees along Green Street has been delayed due to paving and sidewalk repairs.

**Frog Pond**

The grant required that the project be fully funded before CPC funds might be used. The project is now significantly more expensive than originally envisioned and is not fully funded.

**Joppa Park**

Work is ongoing.

**Atwood Park**

The tennis court has been removed and the neighbors have asked that it be replaced with lawn. Kate Newhall-Smith will ask Lisë Reid to attend the next meeting to discuss the Moseley Woods wall, the Frog Pond and Atwood Park.

**Cherry Hill Parcel B Soccer Field Improvement**

The project has been delayed due to the presence of ledge.

**YWCA Women's Residence Roof Replacement**

The YWCA does not intend to ask for the release of funds until the contractor has returned to address some issues with the roof.

**Inn Street Fountain Restoration**

The work on the fountain is scheduled to begin shortly.

**Newburyport High School Exterior Woodwork Restoration**

Work on the second phase of the project took place over the summer. No CPA grant money was awarded for the third phase. An entity is needed to hold the preservation restriction for the façade, and for the Firehouse as well. The City is not able to hold restrictions for City properties and the Massachusetts Historical Commission no longer holds restrictions. An endowment for enforcement would be necessary. Historic New England holds restrictions but requires a large endowment.

**Firehouse Center for the Arts**

Kate Newhall-Smith plans to attend the next SDAH board meeting to review the draft preservation restriction.

**6. Adjournment**

Mike Dissette moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m. Paul Healy seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.