

Town of Plympton Community Preservation Committee Minutes
November 15, 2018
Plympton Town House, Plympton, MA

The meeting was called to order at: 7:00 p.m.

Members In attendance: Chairman Mark Russo, Deb Anderson, Irv Butler, Nancy Butler, David Chandler, Susan Ossoff, Jane Schulze

NEW PROJECTS

Pre-acquisition Fund Project

Linda Leddy from the Open Space Committee presented the project. This request is for \$30,000 and will provide available funds to pursue future land protection projects should they arise. It is sponsored by the Open Space Committee.

Linda Leddy reviewed past CPC support for open space projects. CPC funds were used for Churchill Park, the O'Neill property, and most recently for the Two Brooks Preserve project. Without having some funding available, it would not have been possible to evaluate and proceed with the Two Brooks Preserve acquisition. There are no projects on the immediate horizon, and the last time these funds were voted they weren't used for two years, but without having this funding it is not possible to respond to possible projects.

Dave Chandler asked if the properties acquired with CPC funds have deed restrictions; Linda Leddy said that Town Counsel makes sure these properties are under the care of the Conservation Commission and any open space acquired using CPC funds must have a Conservation Restriction.

Mark Russo made a motion to continue with the next steps in the application process for this Pre-Acquisition Funding Project and to solicit input from boards and committees and later hold a Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by Jane Schulze and voted unanimously.

Linda Leddy said there is currently \$8,400 left in an article previously voted providing funds for projects on Parsonage and Ring Road. She asked if CPC would consider transferring that money to this article. Other suggestions were to close out that article and increase this request by \$8,400. After discussion, the consensus was to have a separate article at this year's Town Meeting adding the words 'and other locations' to the language in the original article to make those funds available because the projects on Ring Road and Parsonage Road did not materialize.

Playground Project

Jon Wilhelmsen and Jason Fraser were present to discuss this project which is a request for \$132,000 for a playground at the Dennett School and is sponsored by the Plympton School Committee. Mark Russo reported that he provided the Committee's questions from the last meeting to Jon Wilhelmsen and Jason Fraser so they could prepare for this meeting. The questions were about: the cost, whether there will be outside fundraising, are the price quotes based on prevailing wage, will other bids be solicited,

can the existing playground be upgraded, and is consideration being given to the location of the existing septic system and any potential new septic system.

Jason Fraser said the price quotes are based on prevailing wage and are no-bid because the contractor is on the State Bid List. The site engineer will look at the septic location and that will be taken into consideration; the proposed playground has a smaller footprint than the existing playground.

Jason Frasier said the project has been in development for 3.5 years. The existing playground is not ADA compliant, has safety concerns, and is not developmentally appropriate. He said they considered trying to retrofit the existing playground but it isn't feasible in part because of the need for safe surfaces underneath.

The cost includes a 20% contingency; the total cost of the project is \$264,000. There are School Choice funds available and they will be used to fund \$132,000 of the project; the CPC request is for \$132,000. Jane Schulze asked if CPA funds can be used for playgrounds, Jason Fraser said yes they can and have been used in other communities. CPC members asked how the CPC portion of the cost could be reduced; Jon Wilhelmsen said he would investigate whether one of the banks of swings could be installed later, which would reduce the CPC request to a total of \$94,000. Perhaps the Town Meeting article could be crafted to allow unused contingency funds to be used towards the cost of the second bank of swings if it is not needed during the project.

Mark Russo made a motion to continue consideration of this project, to solicit input from boards and committees and later to hold a Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by Jane Schulze and passed unanimously.

Mark Russo asked for revised costs from the applicant before he sends the project out for comment. He said there was not enough money for both projects as presented but there will be with the reduced request for this project.

OPEN PROJECT UPDATES

Mark Russo reported that the Old Town House is being painted and Jon Wilhelmsen is overseeing the work. The Gazebo stone mason should begin working in January. The Town closed on the Two Brooks Preserve land acquisition; a tour is scheduled for December 1 for the Open Space, Community Preservation and Conservation Committees/Commissions.

MINUTES: On a motion by Mark Russo, seconded by Deb Anderson, the minutes of October 23, 2018 were unanimously approved with minor edits.

CPA MATCH: Mark Russo reported that the CPA match for this year will be 19% which is the lowest match since inception of the CPA.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting date was tentatively set for Tuesday, January 3 with Tuesday, January 15 as a backup date.

ADJOURN: Mark Russo made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 pm. The motion was seconded by Irv Butler and approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by Susan Ossoff