

Groton Community Preservation Committee Minutes of Public Meeting of March 15, 2010

Location: Legion Hall

Time: 7:30 PM

Members Present: Bruce Easom, Carolyn Perkins (Chair), Mike Roberts, Jon Strauss (Vice-Chair)
Rick Hughson (Treasurer), Dan Emerson, Robert DeGroot (Secretary)

Public Meeting

1. Action Items

Ms. Miller:

- Make sure old postings for Legion Hall are taken down.
- Provide Rob DeGroot with contact information for Amanda Gavazzi

Ms. Perkins:

- Contact Mr. Orcutt regarding status of the Unkety Brook Phase II project.
- Contact Mr. Bouchard regarding status of the Historic Document Preservation project.

Ms. Perkins calls the meeting to order at 7:30

The Agenda is reviewed.

2. Budget Review (General Expense)

Ms. Perkins received notification from Valerie Jenkins, Town Accountant on the current balance in the General Expense Fund which is currently \$19,097.98. Discussion ensued as to the best use of the fund. It was decided that the remaining funds would be best used on bookplates, supplies and additional signage.

Mr. Easom moved to authorize Jon Strauss to purchase 10 CPA signs for an amount not to exceed \$2,000. Mr. Roberts seconded and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Mr. Easom moved to authorize Jon Strauss to purchase 100 bookplates for an amount not to exceed \$75. Mr. Roberts seconded and the vote was unanimous in favor.

3. Minutes

Mr. Easom moved to accept the minutes of January 25, 2010 as drafted. Mr. Roberts seconded. The motion carried by majority vote with Mr. Emerson abstaining.

Mr. Easom moved to accept the minutes of February 22, 2010 as amended. Mr. Roberts seconded. The motion carried by majority vote with Mr. Hughson abstaining.

Minutes approved 4/6/2010

4. Invoices

The Groton Herald, Groton Landmark and Coalition invoice are signed by the Committee.

5. Review & Vote on Projects

A decision was made to vote on the eligibility of each project before the votes for Town Meeting were taken.

The Historical Document Preservation application was discussed first as members had concerns regarding the absence of a management plan. Both Mr. Easom and Mr. DeGroot were concerned that there was adequate time, and the requirements had been addressed on several occasions.

Mr. Roberts believed it to be an oversight and asked that consideration be given.

Mr. Roberts moved we consider the Historical Document Preservation Project eligible pending the receipt of a Management Plan by the close of business 3/16/2009. Mr. Emerson seconded. The motion failed with Mr. Easom, Mr. Hughson, Mr. DeGroot and Ms. Perkins opposed. Mr. Roberts was in favor and Mr. Strauss and Mr. Emerson abstained.

Mr. Roberts moved the Community Preservation Committee consider project 2011-01 (Conservation Fund) be deemed eligible under the terms laid out in the Community Preservation Plan. Mr. Strauss seconded and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Mr. Easom moved the Community Preservation Committee consider project 2011-02 (Historical Document Preservation) to be ineligible due to an incomplete application because lack of a management plan. Mr. Emerson seconded. The motion carried by majority vote with Ms. Perkins, Mr. Hughson, Mr. Strauss, Mr. Emerson and Mr. Easom in favor. Mr. Roberts was opposed and Mr. DeGroot abstained.

Mr. Easom moved the Community Preservation Committee consider project 2011-03 (Unkety Brook Well Phase II) be deemed eligible under the terms laid out in the Community Preservation Plan. Mr. DeGroot seconded and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Mr. Easom moved the Community Preservation Committee consider project 2011-04 (Groton Communitywide Agricultural Historic Context Development, Inventory and Management Planning Project) be deemed eligible under the term laid out in the Community Preservation Plan. Mr. DeGroot seconded and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Comments:

Mr. Hughson stated that the only project he may have endorsed going to Town Meeting was the Historical Documents.

Mr. DeGroot asked the Committee if we could recommend to the Town Clerk an out of sequence application. Ms. Perkins responded that he has that option and the Committee can make a decision at that time.

Mr. Strauss wanted to know how much money was currently in the Conservation Fund. Mr. Easom responded that there was approximately \$790,000. Mr. Strauss asked whether or not the Public had the ability to modify the amount that is being requested at Town Meeting. The answer was yes, they are allowed to modify by reducing the amount. Mr. Strauss was also curious if there would be a cap amount that the Conservation Commission would be comfortable with. Ms. Perkins responded that this would be a good topic for a future meeting.

Scores:

2011-01 Groton Conservation Fund

Eligible: yes

Score Received:

Robert Degroot: 37	Mike Roberts: 45	Dan Emerson: 41
Jonathan Strauss: 31	Carolyn Perkins: 44	Bruce Easom: 34
Rick Hughson: 22		

Grand Total: 254

2011-03 Unkety Brook Well Site Phase II

Eligible: yes

Score Received:

Robert Degroot: 35	Mike Roberts: 40	Dan Emerson: 45
Jonathan Strauss: 42	Carolyn Perkins: 36	Bruce Easom: 30
Rick Hughson: 19		

Grand Total: 247

2011-04 Groton Communitywide Agricultural Historic Context Development, Inventory and Management Planning

Eligible: yes

Score Received:

Robert Degroot: 34	Mike Roberts: 45	Dan Emerson: 37
Jonathan Strauss: 26	Carolyn Perkins: 33	Bruce Easom: 30
Rick Hughson: 17		

Grand Total: 222

Votes for Town Meeting:

Mr. Emerson moved that the Community Preservation Committee recommend for Town Meeting \$30,000 from the unallocated reserve account for Project 2011-01 (Conservation Fund). Mr. Roberts seconded. The motion carried by majority vote with only Mr. Hughson opposing.

Mr. Strauss moved that the Community Preservation Committee recommend for Town Meeting \$75,000 from the unallocated reserve account for Project 2011-03(Unkety Brook Phase II). Mr. Easom seconded. The motion carried by majority vote with only Mr. Hughson opposing.

Ms. Perkins moved that the Community Preservation Committee recommend for Town Meeting \$35,000 from the Historical reserve account for Project 2011-04(Groton Communitywide Agricultural Historic Context Development, Inventory and Management Planning Project). Mr. Easom seconded. The motion carried by majority vote with only Mr. Hughson opposing.

6. GHA-Nashua Rd.

Valerie Jenkins questions regarding the changing of Vendors and filing fees was discussed. It is her opinion that there is already a signed existing contract. Ms. Perkins suggests that the Housing Authority meet with Ms. Jenkins. Mr. Emerson believes there is no signed contract, and the ANRAD and MESA falls within the scope of the application. Mr. Emerson also believes it is within their right to pursue other contractors. The Housing Authority is already in the process of sending out two RFP's to Touchstone and Ducharme & Dillis. Mr. Emerson would like the Committee to supply a signed document showing the support of the Committee that the Housing Authority is within its scope in this pursuit. It is decided that the Housing Authority should meet with Ms. Jenkins and Barbara Ganem's expertise be requested and once all feedback is received a vote will be taken at the next meeting.

7. Active Project Updates

2010-01 Field of Dreams

Nothing is being planned until the ground thaws.

2010-03 Communitywide Archaeological Survey

Archeological research is still ongoing. There will be a public presentation at the William's Barn

2010-05 Historic Documents Preservation

A delivery is expected this month from Browns River.

2010-06 Footstone Reinstallation

Ms. Miller will provide Mr. DeGroot with contact information so a final report can be presented to the Committee.

2010-04 Grange

RFQ's are currently being put together on the remaining maintenance items.

8. New Business

Ms. Perkins stated that Mr. Manugian will be coming to the April 6th meeting with a Fitch's Bridge update.

It is decided that Ms. Perkins will present the projects articles at Town Meeting. Mr. Hughson will present the allocation of funds to their appropriate bins.

9. Closing

Mr. Easom moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Roberts seconded. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 9:11 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by,
Kathy Miller