

Minutes
Town of Acton Community Preservation Committee
December 08, 2016
Acton Memorial Library

Members Present: Bill Alesbury (Vice-Chair), Tory Beyer, Dean Charter (Associate), Walter Foster (Chair), Amy Green, Susan Mitchell-Hardt, Carolyn Kirkpatrick (Associate), Ken Sghia-Hughes, Joe Will (Clerk), Ray Yacouby

Others Present:

Roland Bartl (Acton Planning Director), Kelley Cronin (Acton Housing Authority (AHA) Executive Director), Kristen Guichard (Acton Assistant Planner), Andy Magee (Acton Open Space Committee Chair), Nancy Tavernier (Acton Community Housing Corporation (ACHC) Chair), Tom Tidman (Acton Natural Resources Director)

Walter opened the meeting at 7:32 PM.

I. Citizen Concerns

- none

II. Minutes of November 17, 2016

- It was moved, seconded, and voted unanimously to approve the minutes with a change to the correct spelling of “Robena Reid” (in 2 places) the only correction.

III. Project Hearings and Review (See DocuShare file <http://doc.acton-ma.gov/dsweb/View/Collection-7194/Document-57436>)

- ACHC — Community Housing Program Fund

Nancy gave a brief history of the ACHC and then a PowerPoint presentation “2017 Community Preservation Project Application: Community Housing Program Fund” (see DocuShare link above) detailing this proposal, asking for \$60K of Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds. The presentation included an overview of the housing fund and of future plans for the fund. Nancy also shared a handout of the 11/01/16 revision of the “Acton Housing Profile” (see DocuShare link above). She then answered questions and took suggestions (including using Acton Cable TV to broaden the housing educational process) from the CPC.

- AHA — Development/Acquisition for New Affordable Housing Units

Kelley used a PowerPoint presentation (see DocuShare link above) to give an overview of the AHA, culminating in the AHA’s CPA request for \$75K. She then answered questions from the CPC.

The CPC gave Nancy and Kelley kudos for all they’ve accomplished with the above organizations.

- Town of Acton Planning Department — Regional Housing Services

Kristen gave a PowerPoint presentation “RHSO Housing Services FY17 and FY18” (see DocuShare link above) providing information about the RHSO and detailing this request for \$50K to fund two years of services. It was pointed out that

- All references to “FY17 and FY18” should be to “FY18 and FY19”.
- One can google “RHSO Acton” for a great resource on the RHSO with everything in one place.
- If funding is awarded for two years this time, then each year hereafter there could be one-year requests that would maintain funding one year in advance (in lieu of requesting two-year funding every other year).
- Town of Acton Open Space Committee — Open Space Acquisition/Protection Set-Aside Funds

Andy gave a PowerPoint presentation “Open Space Acquisition Set-Aside” (see DocuShare link above) detailing this request to add \$475K to the current set-aside balance of \$1.923M. It was noted that there is no request this year for funds to augment the Open Space fund for added acquisition costs such as doing appraisals, etc. It was also suggested that in the future the augmented funding should consider covering costs of developing and maintaining conservation restrictions on CPA-funded conservation land acquisitions.

- Town of Acton Planning Dept — Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (BFRT) Phase 2B

Roland gave a PowerPoint presentation (see DocuShare link above) detailing this \$170K request to cover Acton’s portion of the \$1.048M cost for 100% design of the BFRT Phase 2B. It was noted that this is the shortest but most expensive phase of the BFRT due to the plans for the crossing in Concord of Route 2 that would include a) a bridge over Route 2 for rail-trail traffic (see the PowerPoint presentation for visuals of the proposed bridge) and b) the construction of a wildlife corridor beneath Route 2 without interruption of traffic flow on Route 2.

IV. Administrative Updates

- The Planning Department has reached out to former projects to see what \$ might come back, but that project is not yet complete. The CPC should not expect any major “windfalls” of returned \$.
- One can read about rail-trail progress (both Bruce Freeman and Assabet River RTs) on the Town blog. See the Blog listing in the box on the right in the “Manager’s Blog.”
- Updated schedule (NOTE: The 12/15 meeting is at the Public Safety Facility):

12/15	7:40 pm	Acton Arboretum cedar arbor, kiosk and culvert	\$ 24,000
	8:00 pm	Hosmer House re-roofing	\$ 48,000
	8:20 pm	Jones Tavern preservation	\$ 31,165
01/19	7:40 pm	Morrison Farm irrigation	\$ 28,000
	8:00 pm	NARA parking lot expansion	\$ 50,000
	8:20 pm	NARA picnic pavilion restroom	\$155,000
	8:40 pm	20 High Street carriage house restoration	\$ 62,000
	9:00 pm	Acton 5% administrative support	\$ 55,045

Subsequent meeting schedule (subject to change): 01/26, 02/09, 02/23.

9:34 PM — It was moved, seconded, and voted unanimously to adjourn.