

Plymouth Community Preservation Committee Minutes for Thursday August 24, 2023

The CPC met at 6:00 pm in the Shallop Room at Town Hall with video option.

In attendance were: Bill Keohan – Chair, Karen Buechs, Betty Cavacco (via video), Bill Fornaciari, Allen Hemberger, Birgitta Kuehn, Randy Parker, and Russ Shirley. Absent was: John Mahoney.

The agenda was adopted as presented.

Minutes from 7/13/2023 with no Executive Session and 7/18/2023 with Executive Session were approved.

Bill Fornaciari was welcomed to the CPC as the new representative from the Town Historic District Commission. The Committee recognized Mike Tubin, the former representative, for his outstanding performance, and dedication to the Committee and contributions to the Town.

Annual CPC Re-organization

Bill Keohan was re-appointed as Chair in a unanimous vote. Allen Hemberger was appointed as Vice Chair in a vote of seven in favor and one abstention (Allen).

Public Comment

Richard Serkey, Esq., Town Meeting member, said there should be more opportunity for public comment. Mr. Serkey questioned recent actions by Town officials to obtain control of the CPC and limit the independence of the Committee. Mr. Serkey also said the CPC should have its own legal counsel.

Connie Melahoures, Town Meeting member, said that the CPC is well run, the current system works fine, and no changes are needed in administration or operations.

Ed Russell, Esq, Town Meeting member, said there has been over-reach by the Town. Mr. Russell also said a Town-appointed administrative employee isn't needed by CPC.

Ginny Davis, Town Meeting member, said she recently joined the Town's Land Acquisition Committee and is available for feedback from the CPC.

2023 Fall Town Meeting Articles

The Chair summarized Articles for the upcoming Town Meeting on 10/21/2023.

- Article 9A Stephens Field borrowing
- Article 9B Habitat for Humanity
- Article 9C Plymouth Housing Authority
- Article 9D Center for the Arts
- Article 9E Rocky Pond Road/Grassy Pond
- Article 9F Rocky Hill Road
- Article 9G Town Forest Brook trail connector
- Article 9H Pilgrim Hall
- Article 9I Account set asides for 2024

Project Reviews

The Chair gave reports and up-dates on the status of the following projects:

- Water Street Marina Façade
- Darby Pond
- Spire Center
- Stephens Lane Estuary
- CPC legal retainer
- Administrative staff support
- CPC Coalition

Old Business

Betty suggested forming a subcommittee for land acquisitions (e.g., Gurnet Lighthouse).

New Business

There was no New Business.

Invoices

\$3,500.00 for Realworth Appraisal (East Wareham) for 1067 Old Sandwich Road appraisal.

\$2,550.00 for Realworth Appraisal (East Wareham) for 280 Rocky Hill Road appraisal.

Executive Session

There was no Executive Session

The meeting adjourned at 7:37 pm.

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