

MINUTES  
OF  
COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE  
January 9, 2023  
16 Dewey Avenue

TOWN CLERK  
TOWN OF SANDWICH  
MAR 07 2023  
11 H 26 M AMY  
RECEIVED & RECORDED

**Present:** Daryl Crossman (DC); Kimberley Walsh (KW); Robert King (RK); Tobin Wirt (TW); Steve Hayes (SH); Ken Hughes (KH); Rich Claytor (RC); Rick Anderson (RA); Leanne Drake, CPC Coordinator

Meeting called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chair Robert King.

**Public Comment:** None

**Annual Public Hearing:** (RK) explains that every year the committee provides an opportunity for the community to ask questions about the CPA. He asks the audience if anyone has questions. There is none.

**Staff Items:**

- a) Minutes of December 5, 2022 – (SH) makes several changes to the minutes. (DC) asks for additional comments he made be included. (RA) motions to approve minutes as amended, second (KW); approved 8-0-0
- b) Ms. Drake informs the committee that Bill Jennings, Finance Director, has updated the budget. She provided a copy to all members to the committee early that day. Ms. Drake explains that the money is trending in the right direction but the committee should be conservative in their spending. There are several Town projects that will be coming before the committee in the next 5 years or so. (SH) asks about a specific line item in the budget. Ms. Drake is unsure what that is referring to but she will find out and email the committee.

**New Business:**

**Request for Historic Preservation Funding:**

Ms. Rich, Town Archivist, introduces herself to the committee and details the request for funding. This is the second time she and FOSTA are before the committee requesting funds for digitizing historic newspapers. She explains the difficulty they have had finding a responsive vendor for this project but is delighted to be working with Advantage Archives now. They are cheaper and better than what we previously had. They are now looking to digitize The Enterprise. (SH) asks if all the documents are now on the new hosting platform. Ms. Rich states that they are, they are all fully on Advantage Archives hosting website. (RK) clarifies that the digitizing if these newspapers do not just focus on the article themselves, it is the entire page. Ms. Rich confirms. (RK) reads aloud an excerpt from a support letter from The Sandwich Historical Commission. Ms. Rich states that it's always good to have multiple backups.

**Rich Claytor motions to approve \$13,000 under historic preservation funds for digitizing historic newspapers, (DC) seconds; all approve 8-0-0.**

**Old Business:**

**Request for Historic Preservation funding:**



Ms. Drake reads aloud a letter from Bernice and Joe Wahler withdrawing their application. Mr. King asks Ms. Drake to update the committee on some of the information she had found. Ms. Drake states that she had contacted Massachusetts Historical Commission and they were not interested in hold a preservation restriction for this property. She further explains that the committee could put a local 30-year restriction on the property with an allowance for another 30-year extension. We would have to be diligent to make sure this does not lapse. (DC) states that he is glad the applicants withdrew. This is not set up for a good use of CPC money. I hope that they can move forward with this project.

Public Comment on the project:

Richard Russell expresses his concerns over this project. He does not see the public benefit of this property at all and think it would be a waste of tax dollars. He commends the committee on their work.

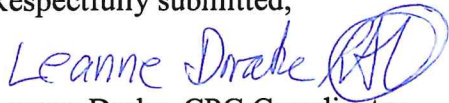
Paul Stajduhar, Jonathan Lane, asks to help him understand if all the other private projects that have been funded have deed restrictions on them. (RK) states that you look at non-profits and churches as privately owned. We do not see those as private. They are public structures providing access to the public. We all understand that preserving the Wesson Boathouse enhances the beauty to the village but to compare a privately held individual piece of property in my name to a congregation I just don't buy that. Mr. Stajduhar states that churches sell their property all of the time. (RC) clarifies that there are deed restrictions on both church properties. Mr. Stajduhar asks if all non-profits are required to put on deed restrictions. (RK) states yes and in perpetuity. Ms. Drake provides some background. She states that churches can just be as tricky as private entities and those applications are also vetted through counsel.

**(RA) motions to accept the withdrawal for the Wesson Boathouse application, (TW) seconds; all approve 9-0-0.**

(SH) states that they do not need to say anything more at this point. Ms. Drake agrees nothing is before the committee to discuss. It's evaluate on a case by case basis.

**Tobin Wirt motions to adjourn, (SH) seconds; all approve 8-0-0.**

Respectfully submitted,



Leanne Drake, CPC Coordinator