**Community Preservation Committee**

**February 10, 2021**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Via Zoom**

**Members present:** All present except Neal Maxymillian, and Chuck Koscher

**Also Present**: Eileen Mahoney, Tom Romeo, Sean Wilson, Katie O’Neil

Documents available for meeting: meeting agenda, meeting minutes from 2/2/21

**Minutes of 2/2/21:**

All approved

Max abstained

Group agreed to discuss applications, if ready to vote, decide and determine where to move money from

**St. Anne’s**

FK moves to approve $100,000, disclosing he is a member

TD seconds, also discloses he is a member

TP—aye, a member

MS—yes

OW—yes

All in favor.

FK asks TR and SW to report back to CPC on project progress; TR agrees to keep everybody updated.

**Lenox Library**

TD notes they have a Permanent Building Committee meeting tomorrow evening, wonders if group wants to table library discussion till after Permanent Building Committee meeting

TP notes there is a tight time line, anticipating an RFQ response in the next week so that they can identify the whole scope of project and identify the final dollar amount to be brought to the Town for additional financing.

FK seconds TD motion, all in favor to table the library vote until after Permanent Building Committee has met. All in favor.

**Lenox Affordable Housing Trust**

FK moved to grant $112,499.49 to the Lenox Affordable Housing Trust; the amount is what has been allocated toward community housing.

OW asked if the Town has received its CPC match. FK asked for some clarification; Olga meant if the state match has been received. GM said they had received some of the state match in November; FK believed the funds in the housing “bucket” don’t reflect the newly collected funds; those need to be appropriated at Town Meeting.

TP believes OW means…can the additional funds come from the undesignated account.

MS asked for clarification: why is FK making a motion to fund less than the request? FK explains that the request was more than the Trust has originally discussed at meetings. He recognizes CPC has a finite pool of funds; last year the CPC allocated $75,000 to the Trust after they missed their application window; adding this to their current “sleeve” balance. He believes this is an appropriate.

MS seconds the motion. All in favor.

**Trinity Church**

FK made motion to fund $51,500.00. CM seconds. No discussion. All in favor.

**Church on the Hill**

FK moves to approve $40,350.00for improvements to the clock tower and improvements to the chapel on Main Street. TD seconded. All in favor.

**Administration**

FK made a motion to move $191, 850 from undesignated fund balance to Historical Preservation balance. FK wants to have it on the record that they are moving these funds from the undesignated balance to Historic Preservation. TD seconded. All in favor.

FK made motion to approve the following designations:

Transfer from HP fund $100,000 for St. Anne’s, $40,103 for Church on the Hill, $51,000 for Trinity Church; and additionally transferring $112,499.49 for the Lenox Affordable Housing Trust. OW seconded the motion. All in favor.

TP says they also need to allocate customary expenses—in the amount of the library debt service, estimated to be: $119,000; FK says he is not sure about that number.

FK asks they table further discussion of transfers until they have completed the library discussion and decision. Group agreed.

TD notes library request is $100,000…is there CPC money available along with the library debt service and other administrative items remaining?

FK states that, based on the funds transferred from undesignated to historic preservation, that would leave us with about $300,000 in undesignated after the library debt service. TP clarifies this includes the four projects approved this evening. FK notes they have effectively spent 50% of their undesignated balance before approving the library, making their other administrative allocations and receiving additional matches and local collections. Some discussion followed—FK said they do have the funds to commit to the library project, but they need a global plan from the library. OW agrees they need a comprehensive plan from the library.

TP clarifies that in two weeks, there might still not be a total expense identified for the library project. TD thinks there is enough information in the application to date as to what the total project amount will be. He will get additional information at the Permanent Building Committee meeting. TD noted that when the engineers first went up, the insulation got in the way of seeing everything. The RFQ is seeking services to do this further investigation; the total project amount of approximately $1 million could go up or it could down.

FK moves for the CPC to have their next meeting the week of March 8th. This should allow ample time to develop a plan for the library project; he would support a request of $100,000 or more but he really wants to see a comprehensive plan for how this elephant will be eaten.

TP asks for clarification—he is not certain there will be a detailed plan even in a month. TP thinks what they will see is where the $300,000 request will be funded from. FK says his greatest level of discomfort with the whole process is that the library came to CPC with a $100,000 ask from a $1 million problem, there has been no input from the Board of Selectmen, the Town Manager (Chief Financial Officer), Permanent Building Committee. FK would like to see all of these people in the room to help address this. CPC could bond the whole project; but he would like to have everybody work to solve this problem. TP clarifies that FK would like to see representatives at the next meeting. FK offered his time, along w/ TDs time (as a member of PBC) to develop a sub-committee to identify scope of problem, best cost estimate, and funding solutions.

Discussion continued about what level of information will really be available by March 8th and a May Town Meeting. TD and TP suggest everybody try and tune into the PBC meeting on Thursday.

OW suggests making award contingent on securing of other funds; FK says he loves that suggestion but would like to wait four weeks to make that decision.

TD says he will talk to the PBC about a sub-committee.

The group agrees to meet on 3/8/21. This meeting will be about the library and the administrative actions the CPC needs to take.

Motion to adjourn from OW. All in favor.