

Shutesbury Community Preservation Committee
MINUTES
January 23, 2023

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm with all members participating remotely.

Present: Rita Farrell, Henry Geddes, Allen Hanson, Matteo Pangallo

Absent: Jake Messier, Elaine Puleo

Guests: Linda Avis Scott, Miriam DeFant, Joan Hanson, Frank McGinn, Susan Millinger, Doug Slaughter, Walter Tibbets

1. Review and vote on minutes of December 15 meeting

Motion to approve: Farrell

Seconded by: Hanson

Aye: Farrell, Geddes, Hanson, Pangallo

Nay: none

2. Update on the historic guideboard project

Geddes: Historical Commission will meet with the Selectboard about next steps.

DeFant: Historical Commission aims specifically to clarify for the Selectboard what the project will involve. There had been discussion about building a sheltering structure for the guideboard. Now the Commission is about to receive bids for preservation that aims to satisfy the scope of work as described in the original plan. The Commission will be presenting to the Selectboard its decision about those bids.

3. Update on Lot R-15 project

DeFant: Closing is expected as planned on January 25 and all documents are now in place. There is a question now about whether a new Town Meeting vote will be needed for the \$5,000 in CPA funding for the parking area.

Pangallo: To clarify, last Town Meeting authorized \$50,000 for the project, but only \$45,000 in CPA funds were used for the purchase from Kestrel. Per the grant application that was approved, the remaining \$5,000 is for the parking area to be built under the auspices of the Conservation Commission, but that was not articulated in the article.

Hanson: Recuses self from discussion on this topic.

Farrell: Concurs that a new Town Meeting article is needed and recommends that the Committee votes on the article language at its February 2023 meeting.

Pangallo: Will circulate article draft to Committee members for vote at the February 2023 meeting. Per the article from last year, half of the funding (\$2,500) will come from the Open Space/ Recreation fund and half (\$2,500) from the Budgeted Reserve fund.

DeFant: The Conservation Commission can provide a letter to the CPC seeking the funding, to document the request.

Farrell: That would be extremely helpful.

4. Questions from potential applicants

Pangallo: Invites comments and questions for the Committee from potential grant applicants, in the order in which Determinations of Eligibility were received.

a. Repair and restoration of historic gravestones in Shutesbury's West Cemetery

Millinger and Tibbets: There are no additional comments or questions for the Committee. Everything is prepared for the application. 43 stones were identified as being in need of restoration and half of those will be addressed in this project.

Pangallo: Is the vendor for this project the same as the last time?

Tibbets: Yes; this is a very good professional who did great work last time.

Hanson: Saw the stones from last time and impressed with the quality of work.

Farrell: It would be great if the Committee did a site visit in the spring.

Tibbets and Millinger: That could certainly be arranged.

b. ARHS Track and Fields Project

Slaughter: Complex and large project delayed by a few years but now ready to move forward, reorienting the track and improving the fields at the Amherst Regional High School. There are multiple funding sources being lined up for the project. In addition to being utilized by district students, including students from Shutesbury, will be available for public use during non-school hours.

Hanson: Urges being deliberate and careful about how funding will be used.

Slaughter: Important to the district to proceed with respect for restrictions and requirements of the CPA as well as priorities and conditions of local CPCs when it comes to the use of their funding.

Farrell: Important in the application to account for all sources of funding that the project will be using.

Slaughter: Many sources are in place, but there are others that are still in process.

Pangallo: Given Shutesbury's own recent experiences with the costs associated with PFAS, wants to know about decisions regarding the use of artificial or natural turf for the field.

Slaughter: Regional School Committee voted for the use of artificial turf and so it is planned as part of the project. The Regional School Committee is aware of concerns about PFAS from artificial turf and is seeking to use products that will mitigate or reduce its presence stemming from the project.

5. Other business

The Committee expresses its deep gratitude to Linda Avis Scott for her years of service on the CPC and to the people of Shutesbury. We've all benefited from, and will miss, her service, dedication, institutional knowledge, leadership, and support. Her presence on the Committee will be sorely missed.

Motion to adjourn: Farrell

Seconded by: Geddes

Aye: Farrell, Geddes, Hanson, Pangallo

Nay: none

Meeting adjourned at 7:28pm.

Respectfully submitted by Matteo Pangallo.