

**COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
RECORD OF MINUTES AND PROCEEDINGS
November 7, 2013
MINUTES**

PRESENT:

Walter Flynn, Chairman
Donald Mathewson
Ed Harrington
Steve Reilly
Pat O'Leary
Christopher Hannan, Clerk

NOT PRESENT:

Dan Condon, Vice Chairman
George Loring
Helen Maloney

ALSO PRESENT:

Kate Marshall, Economic Development Planner
Mary Ellen Schloss, Conservation Administrator

RECORDING SECRETARY:

Christine Callbeck

Chairman Flynn called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

**WHITMAN'S POND WORKING GROUP - REQUEST TO REALLOCATE FUNDING -
WHITMAN'S POND VEGETATION MANAGEMENT**

Ms. Schloss stated the working group met again on October 17, 2013 and took a vote. It was unanimously decided that the working group would request \$25,000 toward permitting and implementation of a winter drawdown. The working group understands that CPC funds cannot be used for maintenance. This is a great start to a fix for the pond; permitting and implementation of a couple of different options to see what will work is the best way to go. If work is not feasible WPWG will cease actions.

Mr. Hannan asked why \$14,000 to do something good for the pond. Ms. Schloss stated by charging these monies to permit, the State is just protecting the wetlands. Ms. Schloss stated the vegetation management plan study cost \$24,000; it came up with recommended options for the pond.

Mr. Hannan asked is this choice that WPWG has made at odds with what the State would suggest for the pond. Ms. Schloss stated the working group has suggested many things, dredging, harvesting, etc. Mr. Mathews stated the only option to fix the pond is to dredge. All other techniques; weeds will come back. Sediment has so much organic element in it that there is no easy solution. Clipper is a 2-month fix and can be applied at any time. Chairman Flynn was invited to working group meetings to advise on CPC eligible matters. He advised that current CPC law will not allow the purchase of the desired machines unless they can be made a

permanent and fixed element of the pond. Another funding source for the machines is the Host Community Agreement.

The working group sent a letter to Mayor Kay asking for monies from the Host Community Agreement for a weed harvester. Permitting for winter drawdown is the cheapest way to go. To work properly, the draw down is weather dependent; it needs to get very cold for several weeks without snow or rain.

Chairman Flynn asked that once the permit has been secured, how long is the window to get the work done. Ms. Schloss stated three years and it can be extended. Ms. O'Leary stated WPWG has a management plan but no line item in the CIP. Mr. Reilly asked if the draw down is not elective the first year, can you try again the next year. Ms. Schloss stated yes.

Chairman Flynn asked is there a monitoring cost or annual fee. Ms. Schloss stated any time the technique is done there is a follow-up cost. Chairman Flynn stated he would like to request a legal opinion on monitoring costs being allowed with CPC monies.

Mr. Tom Daru stated this has been discussed with Mayor Kay; the Town needs to establish a place in the budget for this line item.

Chairman Flynn asked was the working group asking CPC for reallocation of funds and not to touch balance of fund, why? Ms. Schloss stated in case the working group needs to come back and ask for funding to do a different treatment in a different area to help the process.

Mr. Mathews suggested that the CPC lobby the State Legislature to change the law. A letter from the working group and CPC asking sponsors to reverse the change outlawing the purchase of the desired equipment.

Mr. Rob Stevens stated he spoke with the Town of Amesbury and they did the drawdown. Their sediment compacted, he hopes that happens here.

Chairman Flynn suggested motion for one amount and close out the old appropriation of funds.

Mr. Reilly asked did the WPA working group meet with DPW. Ms. Schloss stated DPW wants to replace the sluice gate at Whitman's Pond; it needs to be done regardless of the drawdown. While investigating this, DPW realized there are stop logs that are deteriorated and they also need to be replaced.

Chairman Flynn asked Jay Donovan how much this project will cost and suggested that it be included in the CIP.

Mr. Hannan made a MOTION to REALLOCATE \$25,000 FROM UNRESTRICTED FUNDS FOR PERMITTING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A WINTER DRAWDOWN OF WHITMAN'S POND. Mr. Reilly SECONDED the MOTION. It was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Mr. Hannan made a MOTION to CLOSE THE WHITMAN'S POND ACCOUNT. Ms. O'Leary SECONDED the MOTION. It was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

PROJECT UPDATES

Cemetery Committee; Paula Mine

Ms. Mine stated the Smith stones are almost done. The helper was there today doing work. Helper will possibly have to come back to do some sealing. Ms. Mine will find out and let the Committee know when the stones are back together and in place. Ms. Mine is expecting a written report from Donna Walcovy soon.

Mr. Hannan asked Ms. Mine if she was pleased with the work. Ms. Mine stated she is a little displeased with the work but pleased to see the improvements to the stones.

Mr. Hannan asked Ms. Mine will you review the work and give your final stamp of approval or disapproval of the work when it is officially completed. Ms. Mine stated yes, and then she will submit that report to Jim Clarke at the Planning Office.

Turf Fields

Ms. Marshall stated four turf fields were visited with Activitas; fields that they have done. There is to be a public information meeting at Abigail Adams Middle School on December 5, 2013.

Pond Plain

Ms. Marshall stated this building is coming along; new roof, new windows, and new siding. Phase II will begin in the spring.

Emery Estate

Ms. Marshall stated design plans for the new access road are in; sitting on information for now.

Woodbine Road

Ms. Marshall stated the Conservation Restriction was kicked back from the State.

East Weymouth/North Weymouth Civic Associations

There will be a merger meeting to give a status on all projects.

Abigail Adams Birthplace

Mr. Hannan stated the Abigail Adams Birthplace was featured in *Early American Life* magazine.

Chairman Flynn stated that CPC funds from the State will be larger than the past few years because of the \$25 million provided from State year end funds.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:10P.M., there being no further business, a MOTION was made by Mr. Hannan to ADJOURN and SECONDED by Mr. Reilly. It was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Approved by: _____
Walter H. Flynn, Jr., Chairman

Dated: _____