

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
RECORD OF MINUTES AND PROCEEDINGS

April 2, 2015

Mary McElroy Meeting Room, John F. McCulloch Building, 182 Green Street

MINUTES

PRESENT

Walter Flynn, Chairman
Chris Hannan, Clerk
Ed Harrington
Helen Maloney
Karen Johnston
Pat O'Leary

NOT PRESENT

Daniel Condon, Vice Chairman
Don Mathewson
George Loring

ALSO PRESENT

Jim Clarke, Director of Planning & Community
Development
Kate Marshall, Community Development Planner
Robert MacLean, Director of Library Services

RECORDING SECRETARY

Kate Marshall

Chairman Flynn called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM.

REQUEST FOR FUNDING

Chairman Flynn asked Rob MacLean, Director of Library Services to come forward to present the application for funding.

Rob MacLean said that the request is for the conservation and preservation of 38 documents from the Historical Collections ranging from 1811-1862. The collection includes banners, letters, pamphlets, maps and dairies. Several pieces are from Maria Weston Chapman's Abolition Collection; including a civil war diary and a Weston sisters' book of recipes. Rob MacLean said that these items are not just of interest for a Weymouth audience; but scholars across the country will enjoy these collections as well. The proposal includes the conservation and digitization of the collection for on-line use as well as a locked cabinet to keep the items secure at the library.

Chris Hannan asked if these were the most critical items that the library has to preserve. Rob MacLean said that these are the next priority following the Declaration of Independence and Abigail's Letters which were previously preserved.

Chris Hannan asked if this work may be done for free under the digitalization currently being offered by the Boston Public Library. Rob MacLean said that the yearbooks are eligible; however, this work is more specialized.

Chris Hannan asked about Northeast Document Conservation Center's reputation. Rob MacLean said that they are highly recommended but the library will solicit 3 quotes if the request is approved.

Chris Hannan asked about the condition of the originals and the handling of the documents. Rob MacLean said that the library is working on internal policies, operations and procedures for viewing the collections. They are also taking temperature, lighting and other environmental controls into consideration; such as viewers wearing gloves.

Karen Johnston asked about the security and fire protection of the cabinet. Rob MacLean said that the cabinet will be locked and since he didn't have specific information readily available; he will forward specifications on the cabinet to Jim Clarke for the committee.

Chris Hannan asked how the temperature and humidity affect the papers. Rob MacLean said that it would be nice to have a climate-controlled room to both store the collections and also have a space for historians to do research.

Rob MacLean mentioned a letter from a soldier to parents in Weymouth about serving alongside their son who died.

Rob MacLean explained the difference between conservation and preservation. He said that conservation is stopping the rotting and preservation is bringing an item back to its original beauty.

Jim Clarke asked about the actual process. Rob MacLean said that some items may require a linen backing; others get a chemical bath.

Chris Hannan made a MOTION to appropriate and fund \$31,000 for the conservation and preservation of select items from Weymouth Public Libraries' Historical Collections as described in the request put forward by the Weymouth Public Libraries, from the historic preservation reserve fund balance account. Ed Harrington SECONDED THE MOTION.

DISCUSSION ON THE MOTION

Walter Flynn asked Rob MacLean if Northeast Document Conservation Center is committed to the quote they provided. Rob MacLean said that the Library may reach out to the Friends of the Weymouth Public Libraries or other library endowments should the cost exceed \$31,000. Rob MacLean said that more funding partners can only help the interest of the library. Walter Flynn asked if it would be better to take the request under advisement until Rob MacLean receives a more-detailed estimate. Jim Clarke suggested asking other firms for a similar level of

effort as Northeast Document Conservation Center has provided and that voting tonight would be prudent.

Pat O'Leary asked if Northeast Document Conservation Center has previously done work for the Town. Rob MacLean said that they were responsible for conserving Charles Francis Adams' Letter, a few maps, the Declaration of Independence and Abigail Adams' letters.

Johnston, Hannan, Harrington, and O'Leary voted in favor. Maloney and Flynn voted no. 4-2 MOTION PASSES. Helen Maloney and Walter Flynn both said that they would like to see an increased request for funding which covers a larger scope of conservation and preservation items.

PROJECT UPDATES

Former Kibby Property

Jim Clarke said that he made contact with an owner at Saltwater Creek Condominiums. He hopes to set up a meeting to review the plans with the trustees in the next 2 weeks. In the meantime, ICON parks design is working on the Notice of Intent submittal to the Conservation Commission.

Legion Field

Jim Clarke said that the public hearing for the measure request for \$640,000 from CPA for Legion Field was continued to April 6, 2015. He said that the Administration, School Committee and Town Council are having discussions and reviewing options for a debt exclusion or an operational over-ride.

Lovell Playground

Activitas is presenting the Notice of Intent to the Conservation Commission in May, 2015. Improvements to the Herring Run, storm water management and riverfront are included.

Bradford Hawes Park

Jim Clarke said that the seal coating of 2 courts, the lighting along the pedestrian walkway and the entrance sign are the remaining items for completion when the weather is appropriate.

Lakeview Manor

Jim Clarke said that the requests for funding put forward by the Housing Authority at the May meeting are on hold. He said that Kate Marshall has had discussions with the Community Preservation Coalition regarding the proposed projects at the WHA administrative building. Since housing is not being created or improved; work on the office is ineligible. Jim Clarke said that he will set up a meeting with Mike Flaherty to review the generator request at J. Crehan and the request for cameras at Lakeview Manor. Jim Clarke hopes that Mike Gallagher and the police department may be able to assist the WHA in choosing cameras that tie into the police department.

Emery Estate

Jim Clarke said that he is working on developing an RFP for organizations interested in managing the property.

Stella Rink

Jim Clarke said that the street hockey rink has generated a great response. A youth league is set to begin this spring.

Whitmans Pond Drawdown Permitting

Jim Clarke said that the conservation staff has developed a draft RFP and is waiting on comments from DPW.

Abigail Adams Birthplace

Chris Hannan said that the house has some leaks and ice damage following the bad winter. He also mentioned that in January, 2015, a teacher training program was held at the house and it was well received. Upcoming projects will include installing air conditioning and some lighting.

MINUTES

Chris Hannan made a MOTION to approve the minutes of February 5, 2015. Helen Maloney SECONDED the motion. It was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

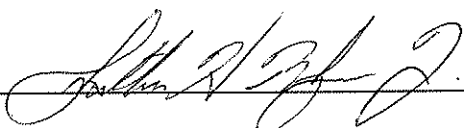
Helen Maloney made a MOTION to approve the minutes of March 5, 2015. Karen Johnston SECONDED the motion. It was voted UNANIMOUSLY with Chris Hannan and Ed Harrington abstaining.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Community Preservation Committee will be held on Thursday, May 7, 2015.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:45 PM, there being no further business, a MOTION was made by Chris Hannan to ADJOURN and was SECONDED by Ed Harrington. It was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Approved by: _____


Dated: _____
8/6/15