COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING
Thursday¸ May 20, 2010

Chairman Warren Messier called the Regular Meeting to order and saluted the flag at 7:20 p.m. with, Betty Slade, David Emilita, Tim Gillespie, Norma Judson and Charles Appleton. Elizabeth Collins, Lino Rego and Richard Spirlet were not present.

Minutes
March 11, 2010 regular meeting. Members unanimously voted to approve as submitted.
April 8, 2010 regular and public hearing meeting. Members unanimously voted to approve with corrections.

Review of CPC Warrant Article #26, Review of motion with dollar amounts – Historic Preservation, open space and recreation, housing, and administrative account.
Mr. Messier read and corrected the figures on the handout attached to these minutes. For Fiscal 2011 Open Space will allocate $100K to the Brunswick/Desjardins project. In Community Housing the Affordable Housing Trust Initiative will be allocated $110,700 and another $6,500 will go to the Greenwood Terrace range hood project. These last two projects total $217,200 for FY11. For reserves, Open Space will be allocated $43,683. Community Housing will be allocated $132,966 for reserves and Historical Preservation will be allocated $43,683 for a total of $220,332 in reserves and for a grand total of FY11 $436,832. Administrative funds are allocated from prior year funds at $21K of which $7k are for HPC and $14K are for CPC. Mr. Messier will discuss these figures with the accountant for the purpose of the warrant article and motion to be presented for distribution prior to the Town Meeting.

Westport Grange Approval of reimbursement for materials purchased and paid for prior to the July 01, 2009 date authorized by vote Annual Town Meeting of 2009. Said materials required by Diman Regional for the project to commence at the schedule time set by the school.
Ms. Slade reports that the Accountant is satisfied and will process the payment for funds expended prior to TM vote. Ms. Slade verified that the procedure is acceptable with DOR Counsel as well and verified by the Community Preservation Coalition. There is nothing in CPA legislation or the state laws that prevent payment for a Town Meeting approved project even if the funds were expended prior to the approving vote. It was mentioned that it is preferred this practice is not followed as the outcome at Town Meeting is not always known. Ms. Slade said that a government entity would not be able to receive payment in such a case. Discussion ensued. Mr. Gillespie motioned to pay the $5,963.48 for the electrical supplies and food prep cabinets. The motioned was seconded by Ms. Slade and the vote was unanimous.

Update on meeting with Landing Commission on retaining walls and landing ramp at Head of Westport Landing

Discussion on Mr. Messier's meeting with the Landing Commissioners last week. He summarized the $16k CPC allocated for two consecutive years for restoration of the landing stone walls and contaminant remediation. Discussion ensued. Mr. Messier explained that the stones found below water level do not suffer as much deterioration as those above water level where they are subject to freezing and thawing from the passing seasons. He further suggested to the Landing Commissioners to work with the Highway Department in repositioning and securing the large stones along the banks of the Westport River at the Head of Westport. There is also a plan to install cocoa matting on the mud ramps preventing further erosion.

Status on the Historic Structures Survey Report on Oscar Palmer Farm. By Chris Detwiller. Request for payment to the Trustees of Reservations for said services of $4,500 (being 50% share by CPC.)

Chris Detwiller from the Land Trust and Trustees submitted the final historic survey of the Historic Structures Report on the Oscar Palmer Farm. He submitted an outline with subsequent actions. Now that the report is complete it has been submitted to Massachusetts Historical Society for review and acceptance so they can move forward with placing the restriction on the property and the national historic registration. He presented the invoice for the report and requested that CPC pay 50%. He also submitted a letter addressed to George Foster which needs a signature by Mr. Messier. Mr. Gillespie motioned to pay the $4500.00 and was seconded by Ms. Slade. The vote was unanimous. Ms. Slade suggested the Trustees publish a press release to make the public aware of the status and history of the site well before Town Meeting.

Request to extend the Waite-Kirby-Potter deadline to June 25, 2010

Members unanimously voted to extend the deadline of the report to June 25, 2010 and to have Ms. Slade inform the Archeology department and ask Anne "Pete" Baker if she would like to present the final Archeological dig report to CPC.

Discussion with Town Treasurer on CPC invested funds.

Mr. Messier went over the funds with the Treasurer for CPC currently in a CD instrument and about to mature. It was decided best to roll the funds over to another CD so as to not lose the higher rate. Further, it was also discussed that if funding were needed that other funds could be used until the invested CD matures.

Review of handout flyer for Town Meeting by Geraldine Millham – "No Bigger Bang for the Buck". Mr. Gillespie and Ms. Slade presented the draft graphic that will illustrate a growing cornstalk with select itemized projects to defend the CPA in light of the article to revoke the CPA on this year's warrant. Ms. Slade presented a list of arguments that may be used to characterize the special nature of CPA funding. They were authorized to finalize the handout for annual Town Meeting.

Committee member term expiration - renewal of members

Mr. Messier reminded the at-large members, Ms. Slade, Mr. Rego, and Mr. Appleton that they need to submit a request to the BOS to be reappointed to the CPC. He also reminded representatives from Planning Board and the Housing Authority to obtain a letter from their respective Board for reappointment.

History Room at the Library.
Ms. Judson requests the library provide a report of the history room for which CPC allocated funding for.

Approve bills.
-Sarah Baker $306.00 Linden and Maple Grove Cemetery.
-NDCC microfilming of 10 books - Historic Town Hall records preservation $1,055.47
-Westport Grange 181 $5,963.48
-Sam Powell - $6,930.00 Historic Handy House window restoration.
-CPC/LTabit $183.20
Members unanimously voted to pay the above bills.

Next meeting scheduled for June 8, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. at Westport High School, Annual Town Meeting and Regular meeting August 12, 2010 at 7:00 P.m.

Adjourn. CPC members adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Submitted By Lucy R. Tabit, Recording Clerk