

**Bedford Community Preservation Committee
Minutes of Tuesday May 20, 2014 - Regular Session
Budd Rail Car, Depot Park**

Members Present: Eugene Clerkin, Chair (Housing Authority); Margot Fleischman (Selectmen, Park Commissioner); Don Corey (Historic Preservation Commission); Cathy Cordes (at-large member); Vito LaMura (at-large member), Shawn Hanegan (Planning Board); Robin Steele (Recreation Commission); Christina Wilgren (Bedford Housing Partnership)

Members Absent: Lori Eggert (Conservation Commission)

Also Present: Barbara Perry, Finance Committee

Chair Clerkin opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m. with a quorum present.

Minutes

Mr. Corey made a motion to approve the minutes of March 24, 2014 as written. Ms. Cordes seconded the motion.

The motion passed 4-0-1, Ms. Wilgren abstained. Mr. Hanegan was not part of the committee at this meeting.

Mr. LaMura made a motion to approve the minutes of February 11, 2014 as amended. Mr. Corey seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5-0-1. Mr. Hanegan abstained.

Community Preservation Coalition Dues

Mr. LaMura contacted Stuart Saginor (ask Jessica) from the CPC coalition to inquire about the lack of detail in their budget. Mr. Saginor refused to give some of this information but Mr. LaMura does not believe that they are overpaid. The coalition is a 501(c)(3) organization. Mr. LaMura thinks that there is still a need to push for more transparency from the organization but the he was satisfied enough with the conversation to pay the dues for the year.

Ms. Steele arrived at this time.

Mr. LaMura made a motion to approve the dues for the Community Preservation Coalition for 2014.

Mr. Clerkin noted that the dues are necessary since the Coalition is no longer receiving the bulk of the money through grants.

Ms. Cordes mentioned that the dues are calculated on the amount of money received from the State not on a population basis. There is no input from the participants and there is no sense of how much Bedford is paying in relation to other towns.

**Mr. Corey seconded the motion.
The motion passed 7-0-0.**

Vote to close out the remaining balance of \$251.03 in Article 15, Item 3, Town Center Flooring Project of the FY12 Annual Town Meeting of March 29, 2011

Ms. Porter stated that this was a housekeeping issue.

**Mr. Corey made a motion to close out the remaining balance of \$251.03 in Article 15, Item 3, Town Center Flooring Project of the FY12 Annual Town Meeting of March 29, 2011.
Mr. LaMura seconded the motion.**

The motion passed 7-0-0.

Review of the Town Meeting/ Budget Program & Plan (including a Recreational Plan)

Ms. Steele distributed a PowerPoint presentation detailing the process of conducting a Recreation Study. Ms. Steele has been working with Ms. Cordes on this project. Their hope is to implement a five year plan in each category to help the CPC decide what money will be needed in the long run. The study will be conducted over the summer and presented to the CPC and Selectmen. The document should be finalized at the end of the year. They will be seeking input from a number of different groups such as the DPW, Recreation Commission and Fields Partnership.

Ms. Fleischman arrived at this time.

Ms. Wilgren recommended creating a questionnaire to provide consistency. Ms. Cordes found the first CPC Program and Plan and found that it was very comprehensive. She believes the whole plan needs to be updated to reflect the current and future needs of the Town. Mr. Corey summarized upcoming Historic Preservation projects such as a pending grant for the preservation of Shawsheen Cemetery and updating the Town buildings. Ms. Steele suggested that the finished recreation plan can be used as a template for the other categories. Ms. Fleischman wondered how detailed the five year plan has to be or whether it just presents a range of possibilities consisting of what people are hoping to see completed in Town. Ms. Cordes replied that it would be a summary of all the possibilities.

Remote Participation

The Selectmen are seeking feedback from committees to see whether they are interested in remote participation. Mr. LaMura believes that there are enough safeguards in place to allow those who cannot attend to be able to listen in. Ms. Wilgren noted that difficulties may arise when it comes to handouts that are given out at meetings. Mr. Corey mentioned that the Historic Preservation Commission response ranged from complete indifference to weak support. Mr.

Hanegan reported that the Planning Board was concerned that it would be difficult for boards and committees with visually intensive meetings. Ms. Steele feels that volunteers make the commitment and should be there. Ms. Wilgren noted that there have been instances where she would have liked this as an option. Ms. Cordes stated that committees can opt out if they do not think that it is a viable option. Ms. Perry reported that the Finance Committee opposed it.

Ms. Cordes asked for an update on the Coast Guard housing. Town Manager Richard Reed and the Assistant Town Manager Jessica Porter have talked to GSA and have received information about the timeframe of when the property will put up for bid. In early or mid-July the property will be advertised online for 30-60 days. A bid deposit of ten percent is necessary. The information from the two charettes will also be added to the website so that potential developers understand the views of the Town in regards to the Coast Guard property. Mr. Hanegan noted that a potential developer could be upset if they have to wait until Town Meeting for zoning changes. It was noted that the sale is not dependent upon zoning changes.

Discussion of Future Requests

The CPC conducted a site visit of Fawn Lake. Ms. Fleischman inquired whether there are any conservation restrictions maintaining that Fawn Lake must be a certain size or configuration. Mr. Corey believed that there were no restriction but the Conservation Commission would have to look into it. Ms. Fleischman suggested decreasing the size so that it could be easier to maintain and would be a better recreational area.

The initial complaint preventing the design and mediation project for St. Michael's fields was denied. An appeal was filed but the Selectmen decided to move forward with the contract.

Mr. Clerkin reported that another housing request may be coming up for Ashby Place. The bidding has started to replace the windows.

The Town Hall MEP project will hopefully be coming before the CPC again.

Ms. Wilgren inquired about the Town buildings being solarized. Town Manager Reed had mentioned to Ms. Fleischman that there is a new vendor that is more favorable for installing solar panels on municipal buildings. It would allow the Town to use the energy that is being produced.

Ms. Wilgren wondered if there would be an area near Springs Brook where an outdoor skate rink could be installed. The committee noted there are other places to skate in Bedford.

Nomination and Election of Officers

Mr. Clerkin would like to step down as chair.

Mr. LaMura made a motion to nominate Catherine Cordes to serve as chair of the Community Preservation Committee. Mr. Hanegan seconded the motion.

The motion passed 8-0-0.

Ms. Cordes made a motion to nominate Robin Steele as vice-chair of the Community Preservation Committee. Ms. Fleischman seconded the motion.

The motion passed 8-0-0.

Ms. Cordes wondered if Tuesdays still worked best for everyone for future meeting dates. The committee will meet again on Tuesday, September 23, 2014.

Mr. LaMura made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Corey seconded the motion.

The motion passed 8-0-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m.