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COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

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MEETING MINUTES

Monday, May 13, 2019

The following Community Preservation Committee members were in attendance: John O'Brien, Rainer Forst, Wendy Timmons, Barbara McNamee, Michael Lebrasseur, Harry Berkowitz, Gerald Ouillette, and Glenn King. Michael Proto was absent. R. Gary Bechtholdt II, Town Planner was also present with Stuart Signor, Exec. Director of the Community Preservation Coalition.

I. COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COALITION -PUBLIC WORKSHOP/TRAINING

Mr. Bechtholdt explained that earlier in the day, town staff consisting of Town Accountant, Asst. Town Accountant, Town Treasurer, Town Planner, Conservation Agent, and others attended a municipal training seminar with Stuart Saginor.

Committee members participated in public workshop/training conducted by Stuart Saginor, Executive Director of the Community Preservation Coalition, a partnership of Massachusetts affordable housing, land conservation and preservation non-profits dedicated to helping municipalities with understanding and implementing the CPA -Community Preservation Act.

Mr. Saginor noted the composition of the Coalition: Mass Audubon, Preservation Massachusetts, CHAPA (Citizens' Housing and Planning Association, Inc.), the Trust for Public Land, Massachusetts Affordable Housing Alliance, and Trustees.

Mr. Saginor reviewed services the Coalition offers to participating communities; technical assistance, email newsletters & bulletins, CPA advocacy & legislation, training conferences, webinars, publications, and workshops. Mr. Saginor then reviewed with the Committee the Coalition's webpage; where to find information.

Mr. Saginor provided an overview on the history of the CPA, number of communities participating, how funds may be allocated, etc.

Mr. Saginor reviewed with the Committee members first year responsibilities and other next steps; preparation of a Community Preservation Plan, review of CPA account balances, review of allowable uses of local CPA funds, recommendations for Town Meeting, CPA annual budget (spending & reserves), etc.

Mr. Saginor reviewed example of how CPA funds may be used; restoration of historic municipal buildings, adaptive reuse of historic buildings, playgrounds, athletic fields, hiking & biking trails, parks, community gardens, and affordable housing. CPA funds collected by the town may be used to help preserve open space and historic sites, create affordable housing and develop outdoor recreational facilities.

Mr. Saginor urged committee members to contact their local legislators to seek their support to increase CPA funding (state-match), which over the past several years has seen a dramatic decrease in funding allocation.

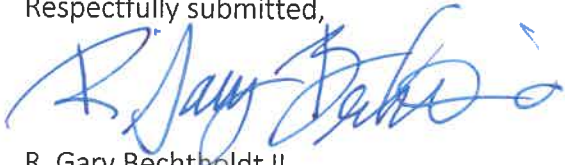
At the conclusion of the presentation Mr. Saginor and Committee members participated in a general questions and answers session and identified next steps.

A copy of the CPA presentation prepared by Stuart Saginor (Community Preservation Coalition) is attached hereto and shall be uploaded onto the town's webpage.

VI. ADJOURN MEETING

Having no additional business, the Committee adjourned its training session of May 13, 2019 at or about 7:15 PM. The Committee shall meet next on Monday, June 10, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,



R. Gary Bechtholdt II
Northbridge Town Planner

Cc: Town Clerk