

CPC Meeting Minutes
November 3, 2011

Members present: Walter Foster (chair), Peter Ashton, Roland Bourdon, Andy Magee, Betsy Mercier, Susan Mitchell-Hardt, Ken Sghia-Hughes

Also present: Steve Noone (Finance Committee observer), Kristin Alexander (staff)

Members absent: Janet Adachi, Tory Beyer, Doré Hunter, Corrina Roman-Kreuze

Walter called the meeting to order at 7:40.

1. Approval of minutes—Minutes are not available so we will postpone approval to the next meeting.

2. Update on CPA revenues, turn-backs, status update

Walter reviewed the accounting of funds available for allocation this year (reference 10/25/11 e-mail from Roland Bartl). CPC fund balance is \$1.3M, with Open Space set-aside of \$1.6M.

3. CPA Bonding—No further discussion

4. Time for 2012 project proponents' Q&A—no proponents present

5. Conservation Restrictions for Groener and Gaebel properties

Susan informed the Committee that the Acton Conservation Trust (ACT) will present information to the BOS at their 11/21 meeting regarding the costs associated with the Conservation Restrictions (CR's) on these 2 properties. CPA legislation requires that perpetual conservation restrictions be placed on these properties acquired for conservation purposes. ACT intends to hold the CR's and will incur the cost to put together the CR's and enforce them. ACT is responsible for seeing that annual reviews of the properties are performed and will have to maintain an endowment to cover potential litigation that might be required for enforcement.

Peter added that in the future, these costs will be added to the CPC land acquisition proposals, and the BOS indicated that they would support this.

Andy added that in our case, these properties are Town owned, so there is much lower risk of the CR being violated, and the ACT needing to use litigation funds.

6. Trail through Time project update

Susan reported on last weekend's walking tour of the Trail through Time, and the progress made at the Wheeler site.

Andy noted the big oversight of not pulling the conservation permit for the work that has been done to date along the stream.

Walter agreed that we will need to be more aware of these types of issues in future applications—we are learning!

Kristin said all applications in the future will be vetted by the Building Department, as appropriate.

7. Review, discuss & perhaps amend open space section of 2012 CP Plan—this was voted on last meeting, so no action was taken at this meeting.

8. No new business was raised.

Next meeting: November 17, 2011

Walter asked that everyone take a look at the proposals submitted before the meeting, and consider which proposals you might want to serve as liaison to.

All proposals will be on-line under the DocuShare webpage.

Walter asked staff to have an update on the Vallaincourt CPC project, as well as a status on the Exchange Hall project.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Sghia-Hughes, Clerk