

Longmeadow Community Preservation Committee
Public Hearing on 2009 Project Applications
January 21, 2009 7:00PM
Longmeadow High School – School Committee Meeting Room

Meeting Notes

A meeting of the Longmeadow Community Preservation Committee (“CPC”) was called to order at 7:07PM on January 21, 2009, in the School Committee Meeting Room at Longmeadow High School.

1. **Members Present:** Bill Hoff, Beth Hoff, Roy Johansen, Arlene Miller, Steve Gazillo, James Goodhines and Dennis Egan and Peter Bouvier.
2. **Future Meetings:** The next CPC meeting is scheduled for February 4, 2009 in the Longmeadow Fire Station Meeting Room.
3. **Public Comments:** None
4. **Public Hearing:** Bill Hoff called the public hearing to order by explaining the Community Preservation Act (“CPA”) and the responsibilities of the CPC in assessing CPA project applications and recommending those projects that meet CPA criteria to the Longmeadow Town Meeting.
 - a. Application 2008 – 1: Chris Hall, Chairperson of the Longmeadow Historical Commission presented the Historical Commission’s request for CPA funding to be used for the Digitization of Stephen Williams’ Diaries and other Town Records. Mr. Hall explained that the diaries are historically significant as Mr. Williams’ diaries cover a 67 year period from 1716 to 1783 and chronicle the history of the Town of Longmeadow during this period. Mr. Hall further explained that currently, access to the diaries is limited as they are located at the Storrs Library and that digitization would allow researchers and townspeople to access the diaries online. Mr. Hall addressed the CPC’s questions relative to the ownership of and possible copyright issues relative to these documents as posed by several CPC members.
 - b. Application 2008 – 2: Jayne Bernhard of the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission and Ed Klein of the Longmeadow Housing Authority presented the Longmeadow Housing Authority’s request for CPA funding to be used to fund a Housing Needs Assessment and Action Plan. Ms. Bernhard and Mr. Klein fielded a number of questions from CPC members regarding the needs assessment and action plan and how each would relate to the Town of Longmeadow Long Range Plan. Ms. Bernhard and Mr. Klein explained that the needs assessment and action would not be a recitation of the long range plan. Ms. Bernhard and Mr. Klein also fielded a number of questions from CPC members regarding accountability and what the final product would look like; especially, as it relates to the action plan.
 - c. Application 2008 – 3: Bari Thomas, Director of Longmeadow Parks & Recreation, presented and explained the request for CPC funding to be used for interior painting, window repairs and treatments, and pillar restoration at the Longmeadow Community House. Ms. Thomas explained that maintenance has been deferred for a number of years and that the interior of the Community House is in a state of disrepair. Ms. Thomas fielded a number of questions from CPC Members relative to the request for CPC funds to be used for window treatments – she agreed to

remove the request for window treatments if asked to do so by the CPC. Ms. Thomas also fielded a number of questions from CPC members relative to the difference between maintenance and restoration – she agreed to conduct a tour of the Community House for CPC members in order to more fully explain the restoration needed. Ms. Thomas also gave a breakdown of the cost for each part of the requested restoration.

- d. Application 2008-4: Ed Dzielenksi, President of the Fannie Stebbins Memorial Wildlife Refuge, as well as board member, Kate Leary, and Chris Polatin of Polatin Ecological Services presented and explained the request for CPC funding to be used to fund a program to control the spread of and disestablish the presence of Japanese Knotweed in the Longmeadow flats over a period of three years. Mr. Polatin explained the biology of Japanese Knotweed as well as the herbicide to be used to treat the Japanese Knotweed. Mr. Polatin fielded numerous questions from CPC members relative to the toxicity of the herbicide to be used, as well as the effect on surrounding plant species.

This meeting was adjourned at 8:53PM.

-Notes taken by Dennis Egan