

# Longmeadow Community Preservation Committee

Date: July 8 2020 Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Remote Meeting

APPROVED as written at the September 2, 2020 meeting

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## Longmeadow Community Preservation Committee Minutes of July 8, 2020

Present: John Bresnahan, Linda Glenn, William Harbison, Don Holland, Sheri Knight, Arlene Miller, Jeff Rintoul, and Steven Weiss.

Absent: Ron Manseau

Guest: Bianca Damiano, Administrative support for CPC

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1. **Approval of minutes from January 16, 2020 CPC Meeting:** Minutes from the January 16, 2020 meeting were approved as corrected.
2. **Report from the Chairman:** Chairman Weiss commented about the Annual Town Meeting and votes related to CPC proposals. All of the articles proposed were approved. There was considerable discussion related to the skate park but the motion ultimately was approved. The committee also had a brief discussion about available funding for FY 2021 CPC projects, given the financial fallout from the pandemic. It was agreed that because everything is changing so fast, it was too early to predict the financial impact on CPC.
3. **Review of Applications:** Bianca reported on issues related to a few outstanding projects and they included:
  - a. **Wolf Swamp Road Fields:** Reports have not been forthcoming on this project. Chairman Weiss reviewed some of the history of the funding for the project and the ultimate result being an over-ride to fund most of the cost. Several individuals and groups had been involved in CPC approved funding for this very large project. However, our committee still needs the periodic progress reports in order to keep us apprised of the spending of the CPC allotted portion of the funding. A point person for each pot of funding needs to be clearly identified. Chairman Weiss agreed to communicate with Mario Mazza and Bari Jarvis regarding reports and the identification of a point person for certain aspects of the project. Chairman Weiss will also communicate with Town Council and/or the Town Manager regarding the best way to return the "ring road" money to the Wolf Swamp Road project.
  - b. **Blueberry Hill Elementary School Playground Project (Project 2017-4):** Reports indicate that \$15,541 of the \$40,000 approved for this project has been spent. Chairman Weiss has attempted to communicate with the applicant, with no success. The committee discussion points included that this project can not be completed with the current funding and it seems as though the funds should be returned to the CPC and made available for

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future projects, including but not limited to consideration of funding for the Blueberry Hill Playground project. It was agreed to invite the applicant to a CPC meeting in August to try to resolve this issue.

- c. Bianca inquired about quarterly reports and who should receive those. Chairman Weiss clarified that she should record the submission of each report and the committee members should receive copies of each report as well.
- d. It was agreed that the committee would plan to review our annual CPC project request application before it is released this fall. As clarified by Stuart and reinforced by our Town Manager, all CPC applications should be awarded to a town department, even though submitted by an individual or non town organization.
- e. It was also agreed that the committee would work on a policy that addresses “sun setting” projects that are not progressing in a timely manner.

#### **4. New Business:**

- Don Holland opened a discussion about the use of CPA funding for emergency rental situations. Mr. Holland agreed to take the lead on this issue and dig deeper into questions related to providing residents with this funding opportunity. Questions included: to what extent is this financial support authorized under the CPA legislation, who is eligible to submit a request for this funding, who evaluates the request, does this type of emergency funding need Town Meeting approval and can CPC money be used for just rental assistance or also for a mortgage payment? Mr. Holland will report back to the committee at our next meeting.
- Members of the committee once again welcomed Bianca and thanked her for all the assistance she has provided already.
- Chairman Weiss suggested that we plan to meet again in August. No date was set.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Minutes submitted by Arlene Miller