



NORWELL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Room #112 / 345 Main Street / Norwell, MA

January 8, 2019 @ 7:00PM

Minutes

TOWN OF NORWELL
TOWN CLERK

2019 MAR 20 AM 9:50

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7:00 PM: CALL TO ORDER & AGENDA ACCEPTANCE

Present were, M. Wahl, R. Woodill, B. McMackin, R. Bjorlin, J. Ivan, E. Markham and R. Mott.
Motion by B. Woodill to accept the agenda. Second by R. Mott. All in favor. None opposed.

COMMISSION BUSINESS

CPC Fund Request discussion

Budget quotes for high def. screen for projecting meeting materials

Conservation Fund and Project Fund discussion

The Commission discussed at length the CPC fund history and use and the request submitted to CPC for project funding. The Commission's CPC application priority list is:

- 1 – Funding
- 2-Jacobs Pond Vege Management
- 3 - Woodland Trail Hazards Removal
- 4-Simon Hill
- 5-Jacobs Pond West
- OSRplan update

The Commission reviewed the balance sheet from CPC from December 2018. They reviewed the CPC Articles and held discussion on the following topics;

- the CPC 10% to Open Space,
- the historic use of Conservation Funds,
 - Starting 1961 1/20 of 1% of real-estate went into con com.
 - Having this fund - and using it over the years in very effective purchases.
 - Some are purchase, then waiting for the state to reimburse - up to 2 years.
 - Responsive for when needs arise.
 - Uses have included, land purchase, legal fees, and paying back taxes for land acquisitions and donations.
- the process required by law to use the CF monies (approval in public meeting by the NCC and then approval in public meeting by the BoS) and the Commission's efforts to reserve the funds for land protection rather than using it for maintenance and restoration projects, made the following decisions.
- The Commission discussed E. Allen's statement that 4 people should not be able to vote on purchasing property and agreed that both CPC and the BoS needed to be educated regarding the actual legal process that required quorum approval by both the Commission and the Selectmen in posted public meetings to use the funds.
- The history of small incremental gifts at Town Meeting to establish the fund starting in the 1960's. The granting of \$500,000.00 over the past decade, \$200,000.00 of which has been spent on land purchase. (refer to the land acquisition spread sheet developed by staff).

VOTE - CPC Funding request.

Motion by R. Mott to approve having B. McMackin withdrawal Item 1 funding from CPC consideration
Second – R. Woodill. All in favor. None opposed.

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VOTE - Jacobs Pond Vegetation Management

Motion by B. McMakin to drop CPC request to \$15,000.00, \$10,000.00 is needed for initial dosing, and the balance is needed for filing the Notice of Intent and other related costs. Second by J. Ivas. All in favor. None opposed.

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Discussion included the fact that the project does not need to be ADA compliant if there is no access to the location by ADA. A project cannot create damage to wetlands to create the ADA compliance.

The Commission's OSRP subcommittee is developing a 7 year Open Space Plan Extension. The update to the Master plan is expected to be done for 2021.

N. Hemingway is to create a presentation for the CPC meeting that includes the history of the fund, what the fund is used for, including but not limited to, documenting Land purchase, Legal fees, Back taxes, Consulting and Availability of funds.

Slide	Overview	1-6 articles and presentation
2	All applications are requested to come out of the general CPC fund	Keep Open Space for a future collaboration project. Along with Conservation Fund available.
3	Funding (1 of 5)	Properties that we have purchased since 1960
4	Jacobs Pond Weed Treatment (2 of 5)	\$20k, Reduce request to \$15k. Overhead, NOI, and permitting. Major resource of the town, a lot invested, fishing and boating. Jewel of the town. Keep in pristine. (Bob will send pictures of doc, Roy to send MW pictures.
5	Woodland Trail Hazards Removal (3 of 5)	Nancy to send MW pictures. Plan for the 4 years for clean up. We want to try it - test program. To see how well to keep the trails safe.
6	Boardwalk Footbridge over wetlands to connect Simon Hill Trails to Hatch Lot Trails (4 of 5)	Picture of the foot bridge - Nancy to supply.
7	Jacobs pond (5 of 5)	2 slides angled, shows benches and car parked, (5 and 6) and then benches and dock. (Nancy to send.) Jacobs elder housing.
8	Open Space Plan	
9	Last request	Forgo the Fund. Please approve 2-5 and the Open Space plan.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made by R. Woodill to adjourn at 8:30 PM. Seconded by J. Ivas and unanimously voted.

I hereby certify that the above minutes were presented and approved by a majority vote by the Norwell Conservation Commission on March 19, 2019.

 M. Wahl, Chairperson