



Community Preservation Committee
365 Boston Road Billerica, MA 01821
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Travis Brown, *Chair*

Joe Fiumara-*Vice Chair*
James O'Donnell
Matthew Battcock

Diane DePaso
John Speidel

John Speidel-*Treasurer*
Marlies Henderson
Phil Newfell

CPC Public Hearing Minutes
February 22 2024 @ 5:30 P.M.
Held via remote Zoom

Members Present	Present
Travis Brown	Y
Jim O'Donnell	Y
Tom Conway	Y
Phil Newfell	Y
Diane DePaso	Y
Marlies Henderson	Y
Matthew Battcock	Y
John Speidel	Y
Joe Fiumara	Y

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TOWN CLERK
BILLERICA

Attendees:

Erika Oliver Jerram – PCD Director, Jane Merrill – Associate Planner
Minutes Prepared by Jane Merrill

Motion: To open the Public Hearing at 5:30pm
Moved: Joe Fiumara
Seconded: Diane DePaso
Vote: All in favor (9-0)

Travis Brown opened the floor to town residents who wanted to speak on behalf of the projects under consideration for CPC funding. Jeremy DaCruz (Resident) spoke on behalf of the Yankee Doodle Bike Path asked the Committee to approve the funding request. John Curran (Town Manager) added that securing the easements is the last hurdle before construction can begin. He stated that whatever that Committee can give is helpful, but he hopes that the CPC would give

deference and priority to town projects over private projects.

Meeting Format Discussion

The Committee left the Public Meeting open while addressing other items on the agenda. Travis Brown asked Committee members if they want to continue meeting via Zoom only, move to in person only, or have hybrid meetings. There was broad agreement around maintaining at least a remote participation option, though Committee members acknowledged that there is value to meeting in person as well. The consensus was for the Committee to move to hybrid meetings; no decision was made, however. Travis Brown requested Planning Staff investigate room availability to accommodate hybrid meetings in the future.

Past Project Updates

Jane Merrill presented updates to the Committee on projects approved over the last few years.

- Town Document Preservation Storage is completed.
 - The Masonic Lodge First Floor restoration is completed, and the Food Pantry will open in April.
 - The Masonic Lodge Façade has a design but there isn't money allocated right now for the construction work.
 - The Manning Manse is completed; Planning Staff is working on having a CPC sign displayed in the front yard.
 - Travis Brown added that the FCCB came to the HDC; they are still working on the design.
 - Matt Battcock will follow up regarding the Maxim Ladder Fire Truck project.
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Allocation Discussion

Travis Brown began the allocation discussion, stating that he wanted to reserve some of the available money for future projects. He suggested funding the Clara Sexton House for \$69,175, the Bluebird Restoration project for \$3,000, the Middlesex Canal Museum for \$301,000, and the Yankee Doodle Bike Path for \$498,362, leaving \$400,000 in the account. The Committee members largely agreed on this proposal – with Phil Newfell pushing to increase the funding for the Yankee Doodle Bike.

Motion:	To fund Clara Sexton House for \$69,175, the Bluebird Restoration project for \$3,000, the Middlesex Canal Museum for \$301,000, and the Yankee Doodle Bike Path for \$498,362
Moved:	Marlies Henderson
Seconded:	Joseph Fiumara
Vote:	Motion passed 8-1 (Phil Newfell voted no)

Motion: To close the Public Hearing
Moved: Joseph Fiumara
Seconded: Thomas Conway
Vote: All in favor: 9-0

Minutes January 11, 2024

Motion: To table the approval of the minutes until the March meeting.
Moved: Marlies Henderson
Seconded: Diane DePaso
Vote: All in favor: 9-0

Adjourn

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 6:25 pm
Moved: Marlies Henderson
Seconded: Jim Fiumara
Vote: All in favor: 9-0

