

SEEKONK COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Meeting – February 11, 2019

Present: John Alves, Willit Mason, Jim Troiano, Priscilla Dunn, David Sullivan, Dave Norton, Susan Waddington

Absent: Jim Tusino, Richard Wallace

Guests: Doug Crandall, Stephen Sloan

The meeting was called to order by Chair, John Alves, at 7:30 in the Town Hall Kitchen

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved by all, except Dave Sullivan who was not present.

Crandall property: Mr. Crandall's application for preservation of 14.6 acres of land at the corners of Hammond and Chestnut Streets was discussed. The septic system issue for his housing has not been resolved and the land involved is not large enough to be used for recreational purposes and the Committee has other applications for open space that would provide more benefit to the Town. A motion was made, seconded and approved by Committee members in attendance, with the exception of Jim Troiano who had not been available for previous discussions, not to forward this application to Town Meeting. The Chair will write to Mr. Crandall giving him official notice of our decision. During this discussion John Alves give figures available from the Finance Department.

Open space – 26,200; Uncommitted funds – 847,000; Administrative – 10,000.

New applications: Steve Sloan presented an application from the Land Trust for funds to assess the Berson Property off Pine St., Cross St., and 2-Rod Way. The land consists of 107 acres, the majority in Seekonk and the rest in Rehoboth. Cost of the assessment would be 4,500 to be divided between Seekonk and Rehoboth. The acreage and terrain of the property would allow for both Open Space and Recreation uses. The Bergson Family Trust is headquartered in Los Angeles and before proceeding the Trust would like to have the land appraised. Steve solicited bids from two local companies and recommended the low bidder – Prospectus. A motion was made, seconded and passed that we pursue the appraisal.

We also received an application from Seekonk Parks and Recreation for \$451,740 to fund a playground at Town Hall. Jim Troiano, Parks and Recreation representative to the Committee had not had a chance to look over the application, so asked that we table it at this time so he could get further information. The Committee agreed.

Around the table: Susan stressed the importance of space for more trails in Seekonk. Dave Norton said that a possible new member for the Historic Commission has been identified. Priscilla will continue to follow through on obtaining water for the Community Gardens. John presented a bill of \$31.36 for printing from Minuteman (to cover the Butler property appraisal). A motion was made, recorded and approved to pay the bill.

Steve Sloan was invited to remain for the Executive Session because of his experience in this area.

The next meeting will be March 4 at 7:30, room to be determined. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 to hold an Executive Session to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property located at 523 Read St. as having the discussion in open session would be detrimental to the bargaining position of the Town. A motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session. The following voted in favor: John Alves, Willit Mason, Jim Troiano, David Sullivan, Priscilla Dunn, Dave Norton, Susan Waddington. There were no votes in opposition.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan R. Waddington
Clerk, Seekonk Community Preservation Committee

