CPC Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 10, 2020

Library Conference Room

ATTENDEES: Suzanne Brennen, Skyler Chick, Tammy Durante, Dan Fennelly, Penny Scott Pipes, Doug Smith, Meg Stillman (absent: Ann Burbine)

Acceptance of agenda – The agenda was accepted by unanimous vote

Mr. Fennelly explained that they needed to hold an additional meeting due to deadlines for the Annual Town Meeting.

**Discussion/Vote Union Mission Chapel**

Mr. Fennelly said that he spoke to Town Counsel last week to follow up on the hearing discussions.

In her opinion, there is nothing to prevent the Town from giving the Chapel the money. In her view, the way the ruling was written, Acton was using the money for religious purposes rather than a church building: they wanted to repair stained glass windows with religious icons.

Although there are no restrictions for giving money to a church per se, the decision may depend on how much religious activity is held at the church. Rev. Cunio has confirmed that baptisms and weddings are held there, as well as weekly non-denominational services. Mr. Fennelly views these activities as religious.

He also noted that they were established as “an inter-denominational church in the West End of Scituate” under Chapter 180 in the MA Business entities for religious organizations in the Corporations Division. He cautioned that the risk to the Town for potential legal fees could quickly exceed the project funding amount.

The Board suggested that Rev. Cunio look to fundraising and the Historical Society for funding assistance.

VOTE: A **MOTION** was made by Ms. Brennan to move $25,000 for the Union Mission Chapel Heating System funding request; seconded by Ms. Scott Pipes; not in favor (1/6).

**Discussion/Vote Country Way Phase II (sponsor)**

Mr. Fennelly reviewed the history of the project, which began in 2012, and explained that Phase 2 would complete the Country Way trail from Hughey Road to Greenbush. Sean McCarthy, Town Engineer, came up with an estimate for the project. To date, no one from the Town has agreed to sponsor the project and sign the application.

VOTE: A **MOTION** was made by Ms. Brennan to rescind the February 10, 2020 vote to approve the Country Way Trail Phase 2 project; seconded by Mr. Smith; all in favor (6/0) with one abstention.

**Discussion/Vote Rescind Additional $1,500 from Wampatuck Playground Project**

A **MOTION** was made by Ms. Brennan to rescind an additional $1,500 from the Wampatuck Playground Project; seconded by Ms. Scott Pipes; all in favor (7/0)

**New/old business** – Ms. Scott Pipes said that selectmen Shawn Harris and Tony Vegnani have toured the Mordecai Lincoln property.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

*Submitted by*

*Mary Sprague*

*Documents submitted:*

*Doug Smith write up on Mordecai Lincoln Rd*