CPC Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 9, 2022

Scituate Public Library

ATTENDEES: Suzanne Brennan, Ann Burbine, Jill Caffrey*,* Skyler Chick, Mike Connor, Dan Fennelly, Penny Scott Pipes, Meg Stillman *(absent: Doug Smith)*

Additional attendees: Corey Miles, Mark Novak, Darryn Campbell, Susannah Green, Caroline Meehan

Acceptance of Agenda – Motion by Mr. Fennelly to accept the agenda as written; Second by Ms. Burbine; unanimous vote (8/0 in favor).

Acceptance of Minutes – Motion by Mr. Fennelly to accept the minutes from February 23rd and March 14th as presented; Second by Ms. Burbine; unanimous vote (8/0 in favor).

**DISCUSSIONS:**

**Discussion – N Scituate Beach Nourishment**

Mr. Fennelly offered his concerns about the cost of the project and whether or not CPC could fund this project; he believes that it should come from Capital Planning. He did some research to see if any beach nourishment projects had been done in the state and he found five, and one of those was the Scituate study funded $100,000 in 2015. The other four were for studies and averaged about $25-50,000.

Corey Miles, Coastal Resource Officer, discussed the project on behalf of the Town engineering department. She noted that they are trying to secure funding before the permits expire; they may be able to get an extension. If not, they will need to start all over and there are more requirements now. Two options for funding for Phase 1 are: CPC for $4M and also a grant for $2M from a Coastal Management program which would include 100,000 cubic yards over 2,000 ft. Phase 2 would be a continuation further down the beach.

She discussed how the sea wall creates an issue with erosion over time and discussed the process and science involved. She noted that the sand would stay on the beach for approximately 50 years. *(More details can be viewed on the supplemental documents on the CPC website page).*

Ms. Burbine said the Town and the Army Corps of Engineers did beach nourishment until the 1960s. She believes that it should go on Capital Planning as it affects the whole town.

Ms. Miles confirmed that, after beach nourishment, there will be beach at high tide.

Ms. Scott Pipes noted that the Town has had seven years to put money aside for this project.

Mr. Chick asked if the beach will be extended into the ocean or steepened; Ms. Miles said there would be more dry land and referred him to the plan. There was an additional discussion about revetment projects vs sea walls with revetment better at stopping erosion. He also noted that the Town has a list of shoreline projects for $55M and asked what projects may come before CPC next. Ms. Miles said the harbor area is a priority in Town. He added that the beach nourishment project benefits a few, but the harbor project will have more impact on more people visiting the Town.

Mr. Fennelly also noted the CPC rules about permanent structures and suggested that this would not quality.

**Update/Discussion – 90 Foot Baseball Field**

Mr. Campbell said that through a collaborative effort between all the parties working on this project it has been decided that the Central Field location would be the most appropriate for a variety of reasons. He said the design incorporates concerns of all the various groups using the field, including the senior softball program.

Mr. Novak, from Activitas, discussed the illustration showing the field design; it will have an accessible pathway, two batting cages and scoreboards. *(For more details, please refer to the applicant’s documents on the CPC website page.)*

As far as joint play, Mr. Novak doesn’t see an issue with both high school JV baseball and high school JV softball on the field at the same time.

From a pricing perspective, they think it will be closer to $1M but they need to finalize the estimate. If approved, they don’t anticipate getting it started until spring 2023 due to all the construction delays.

Ms. Scott Pipes asked about the $400,000 Toll Bros money. Mr. Campbell said it looks like they may use it at the Hatherly School field for maintenance, which CPC cannot fund.

Ms. Burbine said that the Toll Bros money was to be used for a field, not maintenance.

Abutter Susannah Green asked about parking because people park on the grass, etc., and it isn’t safe to walk there. She also asked if batting cages would be used in the off hours; Mr. Novak said that they could be used but there won’t be any lights so that will limit the time.

Mr. Novak confirmed for Mr. Chick that the existing fencing on Branch St will remain. He also confirmed there will be more netting. Mr. Chick also asked about public meetings and Mr. Novak said that they will be holding public meetings.

Mr. Chick agreed with Ms. Green that sidewalks and parking are an issue and that it needs to be on the plan so it is part of the discussion, even if is part of a future funding plan.

Mr. Fennelly suggested that they add storage to the plan and increased netting on Branch St. He also said they should stress the no lighting aspect for abutters and highlight the ability to share the facility across ages and types of teams, like baseball, softball and soccer. He also added that the Hollett St land could serve as a soccer or lacrosse field in the future.

**Update/Discussion – Cole Parkway Bandstand**

Mr. Kelly did not appear, but Mr. Fennelly said he does not have the final numbers yet. They are planning to replace the whole structure. He read the following email update from Mr. Kelly:

*By the end of this week, we will have the RFP completed for Engineering and Architectural, design, cost estimate, permitting and bid documents; including construction observation, for the new proposed gazebo.  We will get this RFP out to selected firms and are planning to have an [updated] application into the CPC by July 1 in order to make the [fall] Town meeting. Many Thanks, Kevin Kelly*

**Update/Discussion – Cushing Trail Restoration**

Caroline Meehan said she has been waiting for an engineering quote from someone who will do it pro bono. She asked about permitting and Ms. Burbine said, if it is for the Town, the fees are waived.

Ms. Burbine noted that this path should be maintained by the Town.

Ms. Green said she supports the project and noted that her son walks on it every day.

Mr. Fennelly suggested holding an abutter’s meeting to inform people about the project. Ms. Meehan noted that there aren’t a lot of abutters and she has a petition signed by many people in the area.

New/Old Business – There was no old or new business

**Adjournment** - The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. by unanimous vote; 8/0 in favor.

*Submitted by - Mary Sprague*

*Documents submitted-*

*90 Ft Field Application*