

TOWN OF YARMOUTH
COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES
February 13, 2008
FINAL

PRESENT: Curtis Sears, Tom Roche, Jim Carroll, Gary Ellis, Jack Mulkeen,
Mary Ann Walsh, John Biega, Hugh Hilliard and Ed Blackman

STAFF: Jennifer Coutinho

LOCATION: Room A, Town Offices, 1146 Route 28, South Yarmouth, MA

Chairman Sears opened the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) meeting at 3:02 p.m. All members were present.

Correspondence: The CPC reviewed letters regarding the Historical Society of Old Yarmouth (HSOY) operating budget, the Committee and Board Operating Procedures, Capital Budget recommendations, and the Capital Budget Plan.

Approval of Minutes: Mr. Roche moved to approve the 12/19/07 minutes as amended. Mr. Blackman seconded. Vote unanimous 9-0-0.

Ms. Walsh moved to approve the 1/2/08 minutes as amended. Mr. Blackman seconded. Vote unanimous with Mr. Biega abstaining 8-0-1.

Mr. Carroll moved to approve the 1/2/08 executive session minutes as amended. Mr. Roche seconded. Vote unanimous with Mr. Biega abstaining 8-0-1.

Mr. Mulkeen moved to release the 1/2/08 executive session minutes. Ms. Walsh seconded. Vote unanimous with Mr. Biega abstaining 8-0-1.

Adopt 2008 Community Preservation Plan: The CPC reviewed the draft plan and in addition to the public comment changes made two corrections. Mr. Ellis moved to approve the 2008 Community Preservation Plan as amended. Mr. Roche seconded. Vote unanimous 9-0-0.

John Simpkins Preservation Restriction: Chairman Sears reported that the Capital Budget Committee did not recommend the John Simpkins Façade Preservation funding request because of concerns with a preservation restriction that would be placed on the property.

The CPC discussed the various options with a preservation restriction on the property and the possibility that if the property is sold to a private developer, then the developer would be responsible for returning the grant funds.

After a discussion, the CPC agreed to move forward with the project and place a preservation restriction on the property should the Town utilize the funds. The preservation restriction will protect the historic exterior of the building in perpetuity. The CPC discussed which non-profit

organization could hold the preservation restriction as it is a town-owned property. Staff will look into which non-profit historical organizations may be interested in holding the restriction.

Rental Assistance Application Update: Mr. Blackman stated that Mary Waygan is working on the rental assistance program. He stated that the focus should not be on setting up the program as a revolving fund because you can't rely on renter's paying back the funds.

Ms. Walsh stated that the Town should look into the Housing Assistance Toolbox program whereby Housing Assistance provides funds to assist renters over a period of 12 months. With a similar program, if the renter doesn't pay one month, the Town would have a lower risk of losing funds because the rent is supplemented on a monthly basis. For instance, if the Town wanted to provide \$3,000 per rental, they would supplement the rent by \$250 per month.

Chairman Sears stated that another protection in place, is income verifications, so that you know that the person would be able to afford the rent.

Adjourn: As there was no further business, Mr. Blackman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:11 p.m. Ms. Walsh seconded. Vote unanimous 9-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Coutinho, CPA Assistant

Mary Ann Walsh, Clerk