

TOWN OF YARMOUTH  
COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
November 14, 2012  
FINAL

**PRESENT:** Gary Ellis, Nate Small, Thomas Kelley, Jack Mulkeen,  
Tom Roche, Dorcas McGurrin, Hugh March, Mary Ann Walsh, Fred Fries,  
**GUESTS:** Jack Duggan, Bob Lawton, Mary Waygan, Mark Forest  
**STAFF:** Jennifer Coutinho  
**LOCATION:** Room A, Town Offices, 1146 Route 28, South Yarmouth, MA

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**CONVENE**

Chairman Ellis opened the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) meeting at 3:07 p.m.

**PRESENTATIONS**

Taylor-Bray Farm Archaeology Phase III (#103) Mr. Duggan reported that the Association has received the permit for Phase II to look at the seventeenth-century farm house. The Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) does not like volunteers on projects. \$24,000 is being requested to continue the archaeology at the Farm. Taylor Bray Farm is a gem because it's a prehistoric site dating back 3,000 years, associated with Plymouth Colony, and its an 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> century farm. The findings from the archaeology digs will help to educate people as to the past and help build pride in the community.

Phase II found a 17<sup>th</sup> century farm house and another building. There is a need to continue to examine the soil. There were handouts with pictures of a hearth, 15' x 20' cellar hole and two floor joists with nails. Also found in Phase II was a prehistoric Native American cache pit, lined with reed grass, used to store food. About 800 hours of fieldwork was put in by volunteers and they want to come back for another year. There is also an 8<sup>th</sup> grade pilot program. Cape Cod Museum of Natural History has expressed strong interest in participating in the survey. There will be presentations at the Museum which will reach out to an audience to raise interest in the Farm and in what brings people to Yarmouth.

Phase III will be an ongoing examination of the site. The plan is to identify the houses and their yards, determine the type of house, and how the farmhouse compares to other sites on Cape Cod. They hope to learn about trading that may have taken place on the site and the number of people living there.

There was general discussion: Mr. Mulkeen asked why MHC does not like the use of volunteers on projects like this. Mr. Duggan explained that they prefer using it as a field school for graduate or undergraduate students. Mr. Duggan and MHC compromised and ran a 6-hour introductory course, which drew 25 people. Vice-Chairman Roche asked how many digs/seasons are proposed. The plan is for four more seasons, 2013-2016. Craig Chartier, the archaeologist who will lead the dig, has 25 years of experience. Taylor Bray Farm combines both prehistoric and historic information. The Town of Yarmouth should consider applying for MHC grants for 2014-2016. Mr. Kelley likes the project and would like to see it carried on. The Massachusetts Archeological Association has been informed. Mr. Fries said the request would be for \$24,000. Artifacts will curate at the Natural History Museum. There should be an artifact table at the Town Meeting.

MAHT General Deposit (#99) Mr. Lawton, Massachusetts Affordable Housing Trust Vice-Chair, said that they have been active since 2007. Through the Buy-down Program, they have created 13 units to date with 14 additional units planned. There was a review of what has been spent. Mr. Lawton reported that they received \$286,000; the county is utilizing \$20,000, and \$190,000 was awarded to the Great