

Draft Minutes
Town of Acton Community Preservation Committee
January 16, 2014
Acton Memorial Library

Members/Others Present: Peter Ashton, Roland Bourdon (Chair), Tory Beyer, Dave Clough, Walter Foster, Amy Green, Susan Mitchell-Hardt, Ken Sghua-Hughes, Joe Will, Roland Bartl (staff), Herman Kabakoff (Finance Committee observer)

The meeting was opened at 7:30 by Chair Bourdon

1. Minutes of January 9: Ashton moved to approve, Sghia-Hughes Seconded; vote: all in favor
2. Update on Recapture efforts
 - a. Reported that Sachem Way, Morrison Farm Master Plan and Theatre III funds were ready for recapture
 - b. Ashton moved to recapture these funds; Foster seconded; vote: all in favor
3. Administrative updates – Mitchell Hardt reported on CPA coalition meeting at the State House
4. Acton Schools Natural Play Space presented by Eileen Sullivan
 - a. Hope that CPA funds can help project over the highest initial hurdle by funding the planning stages
 - b. Will be looking to establish natural play spaces at all 5 elementary schools and Admin building (pre-school)
 - c. Reviewed benefits and compatibility with CPA
 - d. Acton Public School is paying local Landscape Architect for initial consulting and cost estimating; further minimizing costs by using school construction equipment and looking for 25% non-CPA contributions
 - e. Discussion of starter with fewer locations, how Boxboro would be funded, other towns that may have experience, Acton Public School to new region transition, and possibility of coming back for additional CPA funds (and other funding sources) for implementation
5. Natural Resources Arboretum Parking Lot presented by Bettina Abe and Tom Tidman
 - a. Costs are primarily associated with paving. Grading and rain garden costs are not included (funded or provided as in-kind services); using volunteers as much as possible
 - b. Would solve current parking and drainage issues and provide handicap accessibility. Will about double available parking

- c. Had looked at two alternatives but proposing only the selected alternative
 - d. Discussion of paving material, use of parking lot for skating, what would happen if it is not funded (would only be able to keep re-grading the lot as they currently do).
6. Natural Resources Arboretum Bog Boardwalk presented by Bettina Abe and Tom Tidman
- a. Existing boardwalk is in very poor conditions, would be replaced with added bench, information kiosk and ADA ramp
 - b. Project is in part funded by a \$30,000 private donation
 - c. Discussion of length of proposed ramp as compared to length of accessible boardwalk, use of town in-kind services for ramp/parking spot, decking should last +/- 50 years and support structure should last +/- 30 years, built so can be repaired in sections if necessary,
7. Morrison Farm presented by Mary Ann Ashton
- a. Three proposals: foundations/historic, ADA trail/boardwalk and parking improvements
 - b. Discussion of cost estimates and that they are still valid given passage of time, difference in linear footage costs of boardwalk at Morrison vs Arboretum, possibility of splitting the projects to occur over two years, treatment of parking lot surface (gravel proposed), contingency costs included in the estimates
8. Administrative Updates continued
- a. Need to appropriate money to balance requirement for historical projects; Foster so moved, Wills seconded, vote: all in favor

Ashton moved to adjourn; Foster seconded; Vote: all in favor
Meeting adjourned 9:10