

CPC Meeting before ATM – March 30, 2015

6:45 pm

Room 311, Wellesley Middle School

The Wellesley Community Preservation Committee met at 6:45pm in room 311 of the Wellesley Middle School.

Present were the following CPC members: Barbara McMahon (Chair), Allan Port (Vice Chair), Deb Carpenter, Susan Troy, Steve Burtt, Kathy Egan, Tad Heuer, and Joan Gaughn. Mason Smith from Advisory and Tripp Sheehan from Playing Field Task Force (PFTF) were present. CPC Assistant Nicole Ng was also present.

Jack Morgan from the Board of Selectmen arrived later.

CPC Chair called the meeting to order at 6:50pm.

Citizens Speak

No citizens were present.

Discussion of PFTF Request of \$166K for High School track and field renovation

At the March 2 CPC meeting the committee decided not to vote on the request and wanted certain contingencies to be met before taking a vote. In the meantime, PFTF has met with various boards to satisfy the conditions. Discussion ensued regarding those updates.

PFTF looked for stronger commitment from BOS and DPW. DPW has stepped forth and provided a letter stating they will sponsor the project.

Mr. Morgan updated that the BOS voted strongly to support the planning phase of this project with intentions to approve future phases. Depending on timing and funding, he is “aspirational” that CPC and PFTF can bring the project to the 2016 ATM or perhaps at a special town meeting in the fall of 2016.

Mr. Port asked if the project will be a warrant article in the 2016 ATM. Mr. Morgan responded that it is expected that NRC and the School Committee will present it as a joint warrant. He explained that since the land is under NRC, NRC, School and DPW should be co-sponsors of the project.

Ms. McMahon noted that the School Committee has put the project in the town wide financial plan; Ms. Smith added that it is already in the DPW’s capital plan.

Ms. Carpenter asked about the steps in the planning process and Ms. Hurwitz asked how long would the permit last. Mr. Sheehan explained that if the request is

funded, then DPW will get bids from design firms which should take around 6 weeks. Once a design firm is chosen, then a town wide hearing will take place to collect input from residents. Since lighting is not being added, landscaping would probably be the biggest point of discussion. After a hearing, then a permit will be sought and that is generally good for up to 2 years.

Mr. Port reiterated that CPC should not be expected to fund 90% of the future phases of the project. PFTF needs to start looking for other sources of funding now.

Mr. Heuer expressed concern that any money CPC gives now for the design phase will be wasted if later phases are not funded by anyone else. He wanted assurance that there will be funding sources other than CPC for the later phases.

Mr. Morgan anticipates that it will be partly funded by town but can offer no definite guarantees at this time. Ms. McMahon will announce that the project has been sponsored by BOS, DPW, NRC, and School during the ATM.

Ms. Hurwitz moved to recommend the appropriation of 166k for design and permitting of the Hunnewell track and field rehabilitation. Mr. Burt seconded the motion. 8 voted in favor. 1 abstained.

Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made at 7:20 by Mr. Heuer. It was seconded by Ms. Egan. The vote to adjourn was unanimous.