

Oak Bluffs Community Preservation Committee  
P.O. Box 1327  
Oak Bluffs, MA 02557



Joan Hughes, Chairman  
Barbara Alleyne

Jim Dearing  
Donalexander Goss  
Ewell Hopkins  
Antone Lima  
Al Woollacott  
Margaret Knight, Admin. Assis't

## **Oak Bluffs Community Preservation Committee Minutes**

### **February 7, 2022 5:00 p.m. meeting on Zoom**

**Present:** Joan Hughes, chair, Jim Dearing, Tony Lima, Ewell Hopkins, Al Woollacott, Donalexander Goss

**Also Present:** CPC Admin Assistant Margaret Knight, Chuck Fisher, Deb Potter, Wendy Brough, Maura McGroarty

### **Approve Minutes:**

Minutes from CPC meeting on January 10, 2022 were approved.

### **Recommendation to rescind votes on Farm Pond Match grants:**

It was voted unanimously in favor of recommending to ATM2022 to rescind the vote on two grants from ATMs 2015 and 2016 for \$125,000 each (total \$250) that were to be used as at town match for a state grant that was not received. The funds would be returned to the Undesignated Fund Balance.

### **Farm Pond Culvert application:**

Chuck said they were ready to move on the Farm Pond restoration project. He said the goal with the present phase was to submit a 25% design plan to Mass DOT and others for permitting approval before doing the final design and looking for construction funds. He said the larger culvert, which would help with nitrogen in the pond, was a huge component of the comprehensive wastewater management plan and could prevent the need for sewerage the area and would improve shell fishing.

Chuck said the tidal gate was still part of the plan. Joan questioned if the condition of the road, often underwater, was being taken into account. Chuck said Mass DOT had no set plans for work on the road but knew about it, and that the improved resiliency of the marsh would help protect the road. Al suggested need for a possible causeway, and the increased water flow it would allow. Chuck said he agreed a causeway might be needed in the future but a culvert would still be needed to ensure the flow stayed open because the area is dynamic. Chuck said he intended to make sure the road issues were part of the culvert design.

Chuck said grant money would ultimately pay for the rest of the design. He said this phase would take about 10 months. He said the rest of the design work would be mostly permitting, for which he had been offered assistance through Coastal Zone Management. The construction phase would be about 15

months. Joan said she would like to see a planning phase for the road happen at the same time. Ewell said he would like the CPC's intent be transmitted to DOT that the road should be addressed at the same time as the culvert design. Deb said the expectation from the CZM was that the engineers needed get DOT on board in order to get funding. Chuck said Army Corps of Engineer funds would be available again for construction once the plan was finalized. Maura said the area was being eroded from both sides of the road. Tony said a culvert would help drain the water on top of the marsh after storms.

A motion was made to recommend \$161,700 for the Farm Pond engineering to annual town meeting. The vote was 6 to 0 in favor of recommending.

### **Cottagers' Corner foundation**

Joan said John Lolley was working on a new proposal for restoring the foundation by working from the inside only, taking the first flooring out. She said John had said it would be cheaper to do it this way.

### **PALS program**

Margaret said Melissa at TRI had asked about using \$40,000 for each project instead of \$35,000 and wanted to confirm that the CPC approved this change despite not recommending a grant this year. The Committee agreed to the increase in project amount.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45.

Next meeting was scheduled for Monday, April 4 as a public input and information meeting.