

Wrentham Community Preservation Committee Minutes
Wednesday June 26th 2019

Present: Chair Barry Kassler, Robin McDonald, Leo Immonen, Mark Cuddy, Alex Leonard, Steve Langley, Scott Manchuso, Chuck Woodhams, Alan Richard (newly appointed representative from the Housing Authority).

At 7:05 p.m., Barry Kassler called the June 26th 2019 meeting to order in Bennett Gardens meeting room.

Barry Kassler reminded committee members that four presentations would be made tonight to the CPC requesting funding: Gilly's House, Lake Pearl, Rice Complex Playground and Mirror Lake.

David Gillmeister, on behalf of Gilly's House, presented the funding request for \$35,000 for Gilly's House. This is a 170-year-old building in the Sheldonville section of Wrentham. 14 to 22 men recovering from substance abuse reside there at one time. The Sheldon family originally owned the home. The funding requested would be used to paint the exterior of the house and represents one of five quotes that were solicited for the project. CPC questions included is this project supported by the Historical Commission? Answer, no. Are there other funds available for this project? Answer, funds and services in kind were donated to complete the interior renovation. No funds exist for the exterior work. Can the residents assist with some of the painting? Answer, possibly but with the lead paint and the deterioration of the building it would be concerning.

Tom Sousa and Nancy Yannuzzi, on behalf of the Friends of Mirror Lake, made a presentation to CPC requesting \$23,000 to assist the Friends of Mirror Lake preserve and rehabilitate Mirror Lake. The funds would be used to conduct a storm water drain study and to assist with treatment of the weeds. CPC members questions include: Who owns Mirror Lake? Answer, unknown. Is there public access to the lake? Answer, yes, there is a small beach and boat ramp in Norfolk that provides the public access to the lake. Are there other funds available for this project? Answer, yes, \$7,000 has been raised by lake area residents for the project. Has the group communicated with DPW about this? Answer, this storm water issue is not a high priority for them. Do you have the support of Open Space, Conservation and or Recreation Commission? Answer, the Conservation

Committee supports this request, the group will request the support of the Recreation Commission and the Open Space Committee.

Jeff Plympton town Recreation Director, Ray Palmer, Chairman of Recreation Commission, and Jay Cook, VP of Sales, Kompan, made a presentation requesting \$445,315 for a playground to be built at Rice Complex. If approved the handicap accessible playground can be built in 30-45 days. Jeff Plympton noted that when the Rice complex land was acquired from the state, a master plan was completed to demonstrate the layout and features for the property. The master plan included two playgrounds. There is no playground at the site at this time. CPC funding would be used to build the playground at Rice Complex. The proposed playground was designed by Kompan. Wrentham resident Jay Cook secured a discount on the cost for the playground. Questions regarding this project included: How many kids can be on the playground at one time? Answer, 400 and age ranges are 2-12. Is the playground handicap accessible? Answer, the Playground is ADA compliant. How long will the playground last? Answer, 15-20 years. Is there grant funding available for a playground? Answer, the demographics of Wrentham handicap the town's ability to qualify for funding that is available in other less affluent communities. Reports state that engineered fiber can be bad for you, do we have to use that? Answer, engineered fiber is the current choice for many playground surfaces, but the Recreation Commission could select a different surface. The Rice Playground request is fully supported by the Recreation Commission.

Lake Pearl representatives Ken Wagner and Rich Anderson, members of the town-appointed Lake Pearl Study Committee, made a presentation requesting \$83,000. The funding would be used toward the purchase of a mechanical harvester. Two quotes have been solicited for harvesters. It is proposed that Lake Pearl Committee would store and maintain the harvester. The harvester would be used to remove invasive weeds, preserving the lake for swimming, fishing and boating. It's projected that a harvester could be purchased and put in service by 2020. Recreation, Open Space and Conservation Commission support the request. CPC members asked, could this machine be used in the other Wrentham Lakes? Answer, possibly, although the cost of cleaning and transportation of the machine to another lake may be prohibitive. Question, are there any additional funding sources for this project? Answer, \$15,000 was raised in

2018 and it is projected that \$10,000 will be raised in 2019. CPC members noted that there is public access to Lake Pearl at Sweatt beach.

Steve Langley made a motion to adjourn the CPC meeting at 9:36pm.
Seconded, Vote: unanimously approved.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday July 24th, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.
at Bennett Gardens.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Robin McDonald