Minutes of the Ashland Community Preservation Committee

Tuesday May 5, 2020

Zoom Online Meeting

In Attendance: Aaron Ladd, Gretchen Bravacos, Cathy Van Lancker, Amy Sayed (joined at 8:15pm), Joe Rubertone, Devin Cashman

Guests: Brian Forestal, Rob St. Germain, Martin Ring, Stephen Mitchell, Preston Crow

Mr. Ladd called the meeting to order at 7:40 pm

Applications Review

1. Town Forest 2020 projects

Presentation by Rob St. Germain for application update. Gave an updated map to show the location of the rain garden and deer exclosures within the town forest. Rain garden design has been approved by the Conservation Commission. Showed a deer exclosure, and what it would look like with 7’ fencing, and cost details. Presented an example of town forest boundary marker which would be installed every 100’ along the boundary of the forest. Mr. St. Germain also presented the design for the rain garden. It was indicated that plantings would not be installed until 2021 depending on approvals.

Motion by Ms Van Lancker 2nd by Ms. Bravacos to approve application for $9,700 for the Town Forest 2020 Projects. Approved 5-0 by the committee

2. Upper Charles Trail

Presentation by Martin Ring for application. Gave a presentation outlining a preliminary $265,000 cost estimate for the trail project. However, it includes a sidewalk section along Megunko Road to connect to cherry street and that would be removed from CPC application consideration. The committee asked that conservation commission be included in discussions, given proximity to wetlands. Mr. Ladd asked about the connecting trail at Megunko road and impact on the business there and how cars would be separated from trail users, Mr. Ring will investigate and ask for more specifics in the design from the engineer. The committee discussed using asphalt vs cinder for surfacing and asked that two estimates be provided, and conservation commission be consulted for their opinion at the same time so CPC could approve funding for what works in conjunction. The committee asked that funding for signage of the trail at both ends be included in the estimate to help with wayfinding and trail recognition. Mr. Ring will make an updated presentation at June meeting after feedback from engineer and the town.

Motion by Ms. Van Lancker, Seconded by Ms. Bravacos to approve February 4th minutes as amended by vote 6-0-0

Next Meeting scheduled for June 2nd @ 7:30pm

Motion to adjourned by Ms. Bravacos, Seconded by Ms. Van Lancker at 8:45 pm approved by vote 6-0-0.