

Connecting Community Initiative Committee (CCI)
Joint Meeting with Selectboard
February 13, 2023 6:30 pm

Meetings normally held at the Municipal Offices are being held remotely, with adequate, alternative means of public access and, where required, public participation provided, in accordance with Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2022 which extended the Governor's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. c.30A § 20, until March 31, 2023.

Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4136658576?pwd=Q1BtTONBTKFPSzJzdGNhaHN4Wmozdz09>

Meeting ID: 413 665 8576

Passcode: musicHeals

Phone:

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 413 665 8576

Passcode: 6601007780

Minutes

- 6:30 - Call to order
Meeting Guidelines: speak one-at-a-time: follow Deerfield Code of Conduct (respectful, considerate, courteous): concise, non-repetitive

- Members present:
 - ~~Jim Cambias~~
 - ~~Julie Chalfant~~
 - ~~Lili Dwight~~
 - ~~Tim Hilchey~~
 - Kate Lawless
 - ~~Andrea Leibson~~
 - ~~Denise Mason~~
 - Trevor McDaniell
 - Darius Modestow
 - ~~Carolyn Ness~~
 - ~~John Paciorek~~
 - ~~MA Swedlund~~
 - Analee Wulfkuhle

Guests: Alan Swedlund

- 6:35: Approve minutes from: January 18, 2023
- <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Wjr6Ft6OBUtIQsHChAnLSKTcSTT4hv3qKy56WuVntUg/e/dit>
- 6:40 - Committee updates report
 - PB: Vet clinic parking lot; Sunny Dayz- site visit; Public meeting on ADU's- March 6 @6:30 - please attend; Ember Gardens has withdrawn
 - Energy- met w/UMass students doing solar study- bright young women; produced a draft report; MA will get it posted on the town page for CCI; next is a survey about solar. Beginning conversation w/Frontier School Committee for a long range plan to get off fossil fuels. They are buying all new boilers . Lili- someone look into carbon swaps for some town forest? Will ask the committee. Mass Trails may have some info.
 - Park: no change; contacted DA about offered work.. Do we need to wait for asbestos 1st?

- MVP- letter of intent submitted and endorsed- Leary lot, etc. address filtrations . Meadows & no mow lawns? Franklin Conserv. District- Carolyn will be proposing moving ahead to get the outreach meetings going in March. Extra \$20K from state for healthy soils
- Library: had meeting on the 1st- no info on the fundraising; Not clear if going for CPA money for this year; working on interim location; next mtg Feb 21st
- Finance: begin budget review process; treasurer, revenue projection, and various budgets depending on time.
- TBAC: - have a set of plans & description of proposed work w/preliminary cost estimate. Meeting Thurs. w/architect to drill down on the scope of work, then “what next? - recommendations. Looking at about \$11M right now, maybe down to 8M; 3rd option to do only the envelope - around \$2M- depending on what they decide, may or may not go for CPA; Andrea: Historic Tax Credits (Bank of America). John- ask McGovern for \$2M for this building; should they apply for architectural \$\$\$. Some push back about putting senior center back into 1888 building;
- CPC - who is coming for money? Alan spoke of the various projects and possible challenges about \$\$; Tim wants CPC to evaluate priorities.
- 1821 building - submitting a grant; don't hear till Nov., no \$ until Jan.; geothermal in March
- 1888 building is big focus
- Yankee Candle Corporate ? becomes available commercial space; 75K square feet; senior center + town offices; cost per square foot of commercial space is too expensive for town to support
- Senior Housing: Town campus working group
- Open Space: webinars on grants; are we looking at the land we have? Who is looking at it? There is a process that requires deed search, etc. getting walking trails. Meeting next week.
- Conversation about Town Forest- Andrea reports there are trucks up there this week (some kind of tree service). Westfield town forest is in carbon swap that pays for their parks
- Tim: Library letter of 12 libraries to get support; Jim McGovern meeting tomorrow - asking for earmarks, USDA rural dev. Money; pick his brain for other ideas; seek help w/senators; working on getting a planner; Use AARPA money to pay for grant writing/administration; Preliminary concept from the “non-profits” for sewer
- Sarah Kimball - accepted
- Complete Neighborhood grant: public forums; walkthrough of church w/senior center board; submitting “expression of Interest” to “community one stop”. How does it serve the community? Need to complete tasks w/in a specified period of time.
- Report on MMA conference
 - Interesting- 1200 people! Denise gave Kim Driscoll a postcard of CCI, as did Carolyn- need to follow up
 - Met w/Sean Cronin- Dir. of Local Services; got agreement for a waiver- HUGE (about 400K savings) - we need to make this permanent
 - Mass inter-local insurance advisory committee - quite a few risk management programs we can participate in- will help reduce our insurance
 - Workshops- new things municipalities should be considering - very legal; Municipal Aggregation of electric supplies. At 9.x cents per kWh. At end of the aggregation people get hit w/surge, so we are starting to figure out when to lock in- possibly expand the towns we work with. We expire Jan 1, 2024.
- Other business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours before
 - Town Meeting: change of date may be on the agenda- it's a bylaw - last Monday in April at 7 pm
 - CPC inquiries: please ASAP

- Potentially Annie Curtis or others to rep schools
- We got 450K earmark for radios
- Prep for meeting w. McGovern
- Next meeting: March 30, 6:30 pm
- Adjourn at 8:17