

Connecting Community Initiative Committee (CCI)
Joint Meeting with Selectboard
March 30, 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=Q1BtT0NBTKFPSzJzdGNhaHN4Wmozdz09>

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 McDaniel
 - Darius Modestow
 - ~~Carolyn Ness~~
 - John Paciorek
 - ~~MA Swedlund~~
 - Analee Wulfkuhle

Guests: Greg Francheski

- 6:35: Approve minutes from: February 13th
- <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1NDQt3qkhfqxMmZt9eilKuPJO8JbtajujQ4x2hmANP7U/edit>
- 6:40 - Committee updates
 - Energy Committee: Trying to get Frontier onto base line for green communities- work is going forward, concern about the natural gas boilers (new boilers); mini splits only do cooling. Met with the School Committee, going to work on a long range plan. Enthusiastic. Contacted each town Selectboard to create & appoint an official committee. (Going onto the agenda). Desired 1st action (after meeting w/ Matt McTeague of Eversource)- Deep energy retrofit audit - small fee - licensed engineer; they pay 75% of the cost of the audit for municipalities. (about \$1500) . Bill Hildreth & Darius will be invited to participate in the meeting. Other buildings?
 - Bike paths: CPC study request was withdrawn
 - Open Space: supported the Bikeway contingent on Greenfield money

- Town Common: see committee report-waiting 1 or 2 months to hear from DOT
 - Been over 3 years, won't meet w/entire Selectboard, so now they are bringing Natalie Blais and Jo Comerford to the meeting
 - Finance: meeting like crazy, almost completely through the budget, couple to review. Should have the final next week. Not asking for an override, but we have no \$\$ for capital, so raiding every bucket. Dipping into a stabilization fund. Will be working through warrant articles. Talked about doing an information session (Thurs April 20th possibly) Lili suggested looking at selling some town property. Carolyn responded that it takes time and money to address the property. Looking for possible additional funds from the state. Town Hall is overburdened, so we need to consider what support we request.
 - TBAC: haven't met in a while. 1888 building at the CPC. earmarks: we should know in August/Sept.
 - 1888: Denise & Tim met w/USDA re: grants and loans. Can get a low interest loan for long term
 - Library Building Committee: meeting w/architect & OPM w/new schematic seems v. appealing (flow, roof line, siting)- Trees may be a challenge. An Arborist report was needed immediately.
 - Library: fundraising events; still at \$750/\$800K; Dave Sibley event at Treehouse; other events not hugely attended. April 26 in Champney's. Trying a media blitz. Unclear what Eric is doing, not progressing as fast as anyone would like. Expanding Adult Services position expanding to a benefited position. Still haven't found temporary quarters. There was no CPC request.
 - Senior Housing: see committee reports
 - CPC: looking at big projects
 - Open Space: meeting in person; decided to create a system of trails across Pocumtuck ridge using mapping software to identify existing trails and abutters and landowners; gathering info on flora and fauna; created a working group to summarize for Town Meeting. Much of the land is owned by Town, Land Trust, State. Pocumtuck Stewards group- bought land, participating in the group. Looks like they can pull this off w/out town funds! Possible carbon swap \$\$ to be used for maintenance? MA will meet w/Andrea.
 - CIPC: met w/ Finance & SB to present plan.
 - SB: finished budget w/Finance Committee. There is no more money. Discouraging. Old Deerfield Sewer- getting peer review of different technologies; then to USDA for a 40 year loan to be paid for by betterments
 - 350th- Founder's Day in May (5/6th) , June 17th weekend
 - MVP: applications in for Leary Lot and front entrance of DES. Stabilization fund from solar will collect 50% of the money from solar installations for Municipal Vulnerability. The Selectboard has not taken a vote to establish it. Tabled until it could be discussed because the \$\$ is being used.
 - 1888 Building: Tim worked very hard to get earmarks (shows the need for a planner/grant writer)
 - Planning Board: Vet Clinic- approved site plan for 2 years; site visit for Sunny Dayz; reviewing Zoning bylaws w/FRCOG; ADU's coming up in TM; permitting software is needed
 - Met w/McGovern in Feb. mentioned USDA, grants are negligible
 - Complete Neighborhoods walkthrough
 - Governor came for a visit to announce Director of Rural Affairs; great follow up that mentioned CCI- formal invite to Governor + people for 350th ?
 - 1821 building: walkthrough 2 weeks ago w/Whately & Sunderland. Seemed hopeful, but BOO feels like back to square one.
- Current financial position for campus buildings

- Adopting anti-hate statement
 - Put onto next meeting's agenda
- Other business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours before
 - Deerfield Yard-by-Yard Soil Health, Owen Wormser, Saturday, April 8 2-4, at Town Hall
- Next meeting: Complete Neighborhoods April 11 or 13
 - Regular meeting April 27 at 6:30
- Adjourn at 8:20