

Meeting of the CPC Committee of the Town of Deerfield - April 5, 2023

Present: Lili Dwight, Frank Leone, Sean Libbey, David Lawless, Kathy Sylvester, Ben Bensen (Clerk)

Visitor: Shelley Poreda, Frontier School

Called to order at 6:16pm.

Minutes considered, slight reactions made. Lili moved, Kathy seconded that the minutes be approved as corrected. All in favor.

Lili reported that the school committee's request for funds for the tennis court renovation was made in November. Lili suggested that the school board provide the Selectboard's approval. David observed that the application is not complete, and that this is unreasonable, as we called this meeting; Ben observed that "we are taking the CPC process and twisting it in knots" and David approved of this wording. Shelley Poreda said that the bid process is complete and the work is ready to be started, but there's been miscommunication. Ben observed that we are trying to follow the process, appreciate the discomfort of all involved, but that we do not have a completed application. Lili observed that CPC funds cannot be used for maintenance. Shelley agreed to share all documents that she had in support of this application.

In general, the project is @\$300,000; Frontier's portion would be \$200,000, and it would ask the Towns for \$100,000. Thus, the ask is for \$49,000 with the other towns agreeing to fund the \$51,000 (contingent on the approval of Sunderland, Whately and Conway). Shelley apologized for the school's fault in miscommunication.

David observed that the Selectboard had put a hold on certain projects and asked for clarification. The Selectboard has asked for funding for this project, as well as the 1888 building. Lili observed that the Selectboard has asked for more funding than the CPC has available.

Lili asked that the word "restoration" be used to replace "repair" in the application.

Concern about a commitment to ongoing maintenance was expressed. Shelley said that the School would maintain the courts, under the guidance of the facilities.

Lili moved to approve the application with amended language as noted above. The committee approved with one "no" vote. Frank observed that we need to be sure that the wording was appropriate. Lili suggested that we establish a policy regarding bureaucratic difficulties to avoid such problems in the future.

David observed that ALL applications be posted on the town's website. Members of the public need to be able to see these. Frank agreed to ask the Town Administrator to see that all applications are posted. Kathy observed that we need to hold to our deadlines. Several members observed that the money has become available due to other projects' withdrawal.

Lili nominated Frank, Ben seconded that Frank be chair of the committee. All approved.

Who writes the language of approved applications for the warrant articles? To be discovered!

Lili will develop a proposed wording for our policy regarding late applications, to be reviewed at our next meeting.

Next meeting: Wednesday, September 13, 2023

Shelley asked for confirmation of our requests. All agreed that the updated cost estimate would be sufficient.

Lili moved, Kathy seconded that we adjourn. All approved at 7:02pm