

**Town of Canton, Massachusetts**  
**COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE**  
**Minutes of May 17, 2021**

The May 17, 2021 meeting of the Canton Community Preservation Committee was held remotely (on Zoom platform) consistent with Governor Baker's Executive Order of March 12, 2020 suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law. The meeting was posted on the Town's website along with directions detailing how the public could participate and was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

Committee members in attendance: Stacey Gorman, Lisa Lopez, Shaun Chu, John McSweeney, John Leonetti, David McCarthy, J. Cohen, K. O'Halloran

**CITIZEN'S TIME FOR QUESTIONS REGARDING CPA WARRANT ARTICLE**

S. Gorman stated that the primary purpose of this meeting was to provide an opportunity for members of the public to ask any questions about the various motions being presented under the CPA funding article (Article 19). She reported that the CPA article was being clustered with Article 32, which would establish a Municipal Affordable Housing Trust. She invited any questions from members of the public. Hearing none, she noted that she would be available to address questions and concerns that might arise prior to Town Meeting on Saturday, May 22, 2021.

**MINUTES**

**Upon a motion made by D. McCarthy, seconded by L. Lopez, the Committee was polled and voted 8-0-0 to approve the minutes of April 12, 2021.**

**D. McCarthy – Aye**

**L. Lopez – Aye**

**J. McSweeney – Aye**

**J. Leonetti – Aye**

**S. Chu – Aye**

**J. Cohen – Aye**

**K. O'Halloran – Aye**

**S. Gorman – Aye**

**COMMUNITY PRESERVATION PLAN UPDATE – CCPC FEEDBACK**

J. Leonetti asked about the process for completing the Community Preservation Plan Update. S. Gorman explained the process underway to update this report and the difficulty in getting constructive feedback from Town committees/departments and other user groups. She floated the idea of outsourcing portions of the plan in order to get useful input in a timely manner. S. Gorman emphasized the need to get at overarching goals under each funding category. J. Leonetti supported the idea of outsourcing and asked which user groups would be approached to provide input. S. Gorman expected that it would be many of the traditional committees, but she hoped that a wide range of organizations and individuals would be included in the process. She added that a consultant with experience in facilitating public meetings and compiling feedback could make the process more effective and efficient.

J. Leonetti noted that there seems to be community interest in CPA but is wondering what can be done to keep people up to date on the activities of the CCPC. He suggested that a communications sub-committee might bridge this gap. L. Lopez added that there is good information to share and agreed that a sub-committee might be helpful to publicize CCPC successes. S. Gorman encouraged J. Leonetti and L. Lopez to reach out to a few other members

to get started on reviewing the Update and brainstorming outreach ideas. K. Phelps agreed to share the first few sections of the plan through Google Docs. Discussion about existing plans (that might be used as a model), challenges of getting the public to participate, and issues of balancing competing goals followed.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

J. Leonetti inquired about the status of the financial report that the Finance Department committed to drafting. S. Gorman stated that nothing has been received to date; however, a draft would be requested for review at the next meeting of the CCPC.

S. Gorman noted that she will be stepping down after 3 years as CCPC Chair, thus the Committee will need to reorganize at the next meeting. She asked members to reach out if they would like further information about the various leadership roles.

**Motion to adjourn at 7:56 p.m. by J. Cohen, seconded by L. Lopez, unanimously approved 8-0-0 by roll call vote.**

**Respectfully Submitted by:**

*Kristen Phelps*

**Kristen Phelps  
CPA Administrator**