

**Meeting Minutes of the
Town of Dennis
Community Preservation Committee
June 22, 2023 - 7pm
Prue Meeting Room**

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DENNIS TOWN CLERK
RCVD 2023SEP12AM8:39

This meeting took place both in person at Dennis Town Hall and remotely via conference phone pursuant to the law signed by Governor Baker on June 16, 2021 - An Act Extending Certain COVID-19 Measures Adopted during the State of Emergency, which includes an extension, until March 31, 2023, of the remote meeting provisions of his March 12, 2020 Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law.

Members Present: Chairman Chris Foley, William Clark, William Collins, Henry Kelley, Frank Dahlstrom, Cynthia Stead, Jeff Treiber, Brad Bishop and Chris Lambton

Public Attendance: Rick Bishop, Executive Director of the Friends of Bass River 501c3 non-profit

Call to Order and Declaration of a Quorum, Meeting Participation Statement and Recording Statement

Chair Foley called the meeting to order at 7pm and read the meeting participation and recording statements.

1. Review of the Friends of Bass River Upper Bass River Watershed Restoration Project application.

Mr. Bishop, the Executive Director of the Friends of Bass River, a 501c3 non-profit organization, gave a very informative analysis of the Bass River estuary and described why the entire watershed that expands 7.1 miles is so environmentally "sick".

The Friends organization has been working very actively for several years seeking donations and grant funding to be able to move the restoration project along. The portion of the project that is being asked for funding assistance is for the permitting of the North Dennis Road culvert replacement. The culvert is too small to handle the tidal waters since the Railroad Bridge was replaced and therefore the culverts inability to let a flush of new water through, is causing even more environmental issues in the Mill Pond. If the permitting can be accomplished, the construction can begin by the end of December.

Members voiced their appreciation for the work being done to restore the habitat and the Bass River ecosystem.

Chair Foley thanked Mr. Bishop for his presentation and indicated the funding decisions will be made in July. The special town meeting will take place in November and if approved, funds could be available as soon as documents are signed.

2. Review and possible corrections of the minutes of March 9, 2023

After much discussion about listing documents discussed at a meeting, it was decided to defer any action until Mr. Lambton gathers more information from legal sources.

3. Review of the minutes of May 25, 2023 and June 8, 2023

Approval of the minutes was deferred.

4. Discussion of the Town regulations for the CPC (Chapter 9) and the relevant Massachusetts law(s).

In reference to the Town regulation, Mr. Treiber feels it is the obligation of the CPC to study what the community needs are and come up with a plan to be more proactive in the community.

Mr. Lambton responded that the CPC gives a presentation to the Select Board and two times a year at town meeting, CPC articles are discussed. He also notes that five members of the CPC are appointed by their "home" committees to represent needs of their committees (i.e. historic, conservation, planning and housing) and it is their responsibility to keep their "home" committee informed of funding possibilities. Signs are also placed in the public areas where CPA funds have gone to support a project.

Mr. Dahlstrom reminded the members there is a Comprehensive Plan already in place and that the Comprehensive Planning Board is made up of different members of the community.

After much discussion, the majority of the members felt the CPC was accomplishing its mission.

Mr. Lambton made a motion to table the discussion. Mr. Collins seconded the motion.

Discussion: Mr. Foley does not wish to table the discussion to bring up at a later date.

Vote: Mr. Treiber and Mr. Bishop voted in favor; all others opposed; the motion did not pass; 2-7-0.

Mr. Foley made a motion to limit the discussion; Mr. Dahlstrom seconded the motion. Mr. Treiber voted against; all others voted in favor; 8-1-0.

Mr. Dahlstrom made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:09pm. Mr. Collins seconded the motion and all members voted in favor.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Amanda Lapierre
Recording Secretary**