

CDAC 07/26/23 Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Al Bottone, Greg Bullard, Beth Cossey, James Kidder, Maggie Lynn, Evan Miller, Mary Tworog, Kevin Raday (Chair)

Others Present: Robert McHatton, Robert Peabody, Tori Hill, Angie Cook, Dee Miller

Select Board Report (Robert McHatton)

- The Open Space Plan was accepted by the Select Board. The Board charged staff with writing a mission statement for an Open Space Committee and appropriate qualifications for proposed members.
- The Select Board authorized participation in a \$75,000 grant program under which GPCOG will study affordable housing issues in four neighboring towns. The study here will look at three town owned parcels in the village area in terms of potential density increases. The result will be a study showing what potentially could be done to expand housing resources.

Town Manager's Report (Robert Peabody)

- Follow up work continues on obtaining grant funding for the 2.3 million dollar expansion for the waste water project on South High .
- Fidium is continuing stringing fiber optic cable around town to extend areas serviced and/or provide a competitive alternative.
- Softball Tournament at Ham Complex was a success, drawing 19 teams.
- CDBG facility funds for the last several years have concentrated on extending the reach of sidewalks in the downtown village area. The proposed project for this coming year is to construct a handicapped accessible playground, most likely at the Ham Complex. There could also be funds to address a small park on town-owned property on lower Main St that has been under consideration for a number of years.

HAM Complex Master Plan (Gary Colello & Tori Hill)

- The town has enter into a contract with VIEWSHED consultants to create a Master Plan for the Ham Recreation Complex. Having just completed the Open Space Plan for Bridgton, VIEWSHED is familiar with Bridgton as indicated in their proposal.

Comp Plan Update (Tori Hill)

- The contract with the consulting firm working with the town on developing the Comp Plan has just been signed. Organizing meetings will begin shortly.

Arts & Culture Sub-committee (Greg Bullard)

- looking to meet in the first week of August
- Mural at Bookshop may need some maintenance
- looking into Maine Arts Commission funding

Community HELP

- After losing its location and then volunteers, this organization is no longer functioning as it had been as a source of used clothing for the community. Al Bottone & Mary Tworog will explore/research finding a non-profit organization that could assume this function & also a possible new location. Timing is important as back-to-school, fall & winter approach.