



# City of Westfield

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Community Preservation Committee Meeting Minutes  
January 9, 2020 – 6:30 pm, Room 201, Westfield Municipal Building

Members attending:   
Members absent:

Staff attending:

Cheryl Crowe   
John Bowen (Alt)   
Cynthia Gaylord   
Daniel Kelly   
Joe Muto   
Vincent Olinski (Alt)   
William Porter   
Michael Tirrell   
Thomas Sharp

Jay Vinskey   
Christine Fedora

Chairman Sharp called the meeting to order at 6:30 and members of the Committee introduced themselves.

## 1. Public Participation

Chairman Sharp asked for any public comment. None presented.

2. Review and Approval of 10-10-19 Minutes - postponed until the next meeting.

## 3. Review of Budget/Funds

CPA Administrator Vinskey reviewed the current budget for the Commission.

	FY20	Balance
Historic	0	0
Open Space	50,000	102937
Housing	50,000	298921
Undesignated	110,000	413,131

plus the State Match approximately \$65,000.

## 4. Review of New/Pending Applications

- Columbia Greenway/connector spur to Country Club Dr. (recreation) - \$160,000.00

City Engineer Mark Cressotti addressed the Committee regarding the application for funding to cover a spur connection to Country Club Drive in the amount of \$160,000.00

Mr. Cressotti stated he is here before the CPC because it is evident the Council and Mayor would like the CPC to fund the spur connection to Country Club Drive.

Chair Sharp inquired about the cost of the project? Mr. Cressotti noted the estimated cost was approximately \$160,000.00 but additional land acquisition costs were not part of the ask.

Some members voiced their concerns that they thought there would be no additional funding requests from the CPC for the Greenway project. Mr. Cressotti noted this funding would be used for enhancements on Shaker Road to enable residents from Country Club Drive area to access the rail trail. It is not specifically part of the previous greenway request.

He further noted there are other locations that have access to the rail trail and there hope is to create a connector from Country Club Drive to the entrance on Shaker Road, walking/riding along Shaker itself can be dangerous. This connector would serve approximately 100 homes and help to serve other neighborhoods as well. Members noted other options such as the parking which is allowed at Shaker Farms Country Club.

Member Crowe inquired about Chapter 90 funding? Mr. Cressotti noted they have already used Chapter 90 funds and he is here at the request of the Council.

Member Gaylord inquired how many houses will be serviced? Mr. Cressotti felt it would be a little over 100 houses. Commission Sharp noted that 100 houses sounds like a lot but it's a small piece of the pie, he further noted he was having problems justifying doing something for just 100 homes verses the money spent. Chair Sharp said he would be comfortable funding a smaller portion of the project.

Members took a straw count on how they felt regarding this application.

Chair Sharp stated he struggled with the amount being requested as well as Members Muto, and Porter. Member Porter asked if this is time sensitive? Mr. Cressotti noted the Conservation permit is good for 3 years. Member Muto also inquired if they receive less than anticipated does he have an alternative? Mr. Cressotti stated off hand he does not have an alternative but would have to investigate further. Members further voiced their concerns regarding the number of residences this would serve in comparison of the numbers of residences in the city.

A discussion also ensued regarding different options for the connector to make it safer for residences to get to the trail. Could speed bumps be used? Rough area of pavement to slow down the traffic?

The Committee agreed this is a good project but felt the CPA fully funding the dollar amount is too high for the amount of people it would be serving and further asked if Mr. Cressotti to come back with a different number or get the money from some other sources.

Member Muto agreed that it's a good project and suggested going to the Mayor to see if additional funds can be found from another source before CPC commits fully.

The Board briefly discussed the numbers they would be comfortable with. Members Crowe and Kelly were comfortable with \$100,000. Member Muto was comfortable with \$80,000.

Chair Sharp felt it would be best for the Committee to wait and see what other funds, if any, can be used. The matter will be revisited at the next meeting.

#### 5. Status of Recommended/Funded Projects

Members commented: Bismark Hotel - looks great; Schoolhouse – nothing new; Hangar – done; Pitoniak property – sign is up; Fowler Tavern – looks gorgeous

#### 6. Discussion of Potential Projects

Christmas Tree Farm – Discussion with Attorney Brad Moir at last meeting, nothing further to report.

#### 7. Annual election of chairperson, vice chair person

Member Kelly MOTIONED, seconded by Member Muto to have Chair Sharp continue as Chair. Chair Sharp stated he would be happy to stay in if no one else wants to step up. Member Porter added Chair Sharp has done an outstanding job.

Member Kelly MOTIONED, seconded by Member Gaylord to keep the officers the way they currently are. All in favor.

#### 8. Designation of the date/time of regular quarterly meetings.

Member Crowe MOTIONED seconded by Member Muto to continue to hold the meetings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdays @ 6:30 on same quarterly basis. All in favor.

#### 9. Other Business/Future Agenda Items

Next meeting (April) is the annual public hearing.  
Meeting adjourned at 7:14p.m.