

COMMUNITY RELATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES

June 21, 2021

Present: George Bitzas - Chair
Anthony Suffriti – Vice Chair
Cecilia Calabrese
Gerald Smith
Robert Rossi

Also Present: Councilors Cavallo, Mercadante and Tedeschi and Solicitor Buoniconti

Called to Order: Meeting was called to order by Chairman George Bitzas at 6:30pm AJHS Teachers' Conference Room

AGENDA

1. Approval of the minutes dated June 7, 2021

Motion to approve made by Councilor Smith and seconded by Councilor Suffriti.

The vote was **5 Yes, 0 No** approving the minutes.

2. TR-2021-43 - A Resolution petitioning our State Legislators to sponsor legislation that permits Community Preservation Act funds to be used by seniors on a fixed income and low income residents for home maintenance and repairs (Councilors Bitzas, Suffriti and Mercadante)

Councilor Bitzas stated there is currently \$4,437,178 in the CPA account with a balance of \$955,000 in Affordable Housing including more matched money coming in. Councilor Smith asked who would determine the eligibility for this fund if this resolution passed. Members present supported this idea and Councilor Rossi questioned the legality. Solicitor Buoniconti stated that really can't use CPA money for private houses that lack a public purpose. This proposal would pierce the anti-aide provisions of the Massachusetts Constitution.

No recommendation made and a Motion to table was moved and seconded.

3. Any other business that may legally come before the Committee.

None.

4. Adjournment.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:53pm.

Respectfully submitted,

George Bitzas, Chair
Community Relations Sub-Committee