

**Town of Hamilton  
Community Preservation Committee  
June 14, 2012 Minutes**

**Attendees**

The meeting was held in the Memorial Room of Town Hall with the following Committee members in attendance: Ed Howard, Jay Butler, Ray Whipple, Robert Preston, Keith Glidden, Nepo Trepanier, and Peter Britton. Christine Berry as CPC Coordinator was also present. With a quorum of CPC members present the meeting was called to order at 7:30pm

**Vote Acting Chair for Meeting**

Peter Britton was voted Acting Chair of the Community Preservation Committee for tonight's meeting.

**Acceptance of Minutes from May 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting**

The minutes, with revisions, from the May 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting were accepted by the CPC.

**Disposition of Town Clock in the First Congregational Church of Hamilton**

Dave Carey expressed interest in transferring ownership of the Town Clock to the First Congregational Church of Hamilton (FCCH). The FCCH was the recipient of \$11,000 in FY13 CPA funds for the renovation of the church bell so that it would ring in intervals synchronized with the Town Clock. Peter noted that the bell and clock seem to be in good working order. The CPC wished to thank Dave for requesting their feedback, but felt this discussion was best left in the purview of the Board of Selectmen.

**Acceptance of Donovan Acquisition Donations – HW Girls Youth Lacrosse and HW Youth Boys Lacrosse**

Christine reported that we received a \$1,940.00 gift from HW Boys Youth Lacrosse and a \$1,640.00 gift from HW Girls Youth Lacrosse accompanied by Gift Agreement Forms stating that they be used to pay for the Donovan acquisition. The gift forms need to be signed by the Chair. Ray moved that gifts be accepted. The CPC voted to accept the gifts, and the forms were signed by Peter Britton, acting Chair of the CPC. Christine will send a thank you to both organizations.

**Patton Land Donation Committee Update**

Tom provided a brief update to the CPC via email. He wrote that the Patton Estate Advisory Committee continues to meet every two weeks to discuss the project. He noted that the closing is tentatively scheduled for the beginning of September. Michael Lombardo continues to meet with consultants to complete the survey, inspections and other analyses as part of the Town's due diligence. He noted that they are waiting for the completion of the site survey prior to commencement of the design studies for the recreation portion of the project. Tom added that Mrs. Patton will be moving from the house soon and, following that, a detailed inventory of the house and its contents will be completed.

Peter Britton added that they have met with an arborist who assures them the mature beech trees can be relocated closer to the house, making it more valuable. He said they are looking into the possibility of valuable gravel being found on site and that that could take up to four years to remove.

Ray inquired as to who was going to supervise the project. Peter noted that a stable manager/home caretaker could be hired to manage the house for now. Robert noted that someone should go through the house every day. Ray asked if they were already looking at liquidating the house. Peter said no, that they are looking at both as pieces of the puzzle. Jay reported that the recreation studies show we need

a multi-purpose field and that mostly lacrosse is suffering from lack of field space. The Town should work to make sure the appropriate field needs are met.

#### **Increase in Grant Requests Pending CPA Revised Legislation and Discussion of Patton Park Pool**

The long-awaited change in the CPA legislation appears to be close, allowing for a broader range of recreation projects to qualify for CPA funds. Jay noted that Recreation Board will submit a request for the Patton Park pool as soon as the legislation passes. He also expects we'll see an application from the Friends of Patton Park for funds to complete the playground improvements. Peter Britton noted that the Patton recreation field request may be delayed if gravel is found, but that prep work can be done as part of the removal.

While not a recreation project, Robert Preston noted that the Community House of Hamilton and Wenham may bring forth a request to fund repairs to the building's cupola. He said they are talking to AT&T and Verizon about cell tower usage of the structure.

#### **Meeting House (formerly known as the Old Library) Appropriation Transfer**

Hamilton DPW staff would like to request an appropriation transfer of the remaining, unused funds appropriated in FY12 for the Meeting House windows, \$7,500.00. The funds would be used for other improvements at the building. The CPC requested the DPW prepare a CPA application as is consistent with their procedures. Nepo noted that the Meeting House may be used as an emergency center in the future.

#### **July CPC Meeting**

Due to historical low turn-out and the likelihood of a light agenda, the CPC decided to cancel the July CPC meeting. The next CPC meeting will be August 9, 2012.