

**Town of Hamilton
Community Preservation Committee
September 13, 2012 Minutes**

Attendees

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

Acceptance of Minutes from August 30th CPC Meeting

The minutes from the August 30th CPC meeting was accepted by the CPC.

Patton Park Pool Update

Christine gave a brief update on the Patton Park Pool. Christine reported that Sean Timmons, Recreation Director, will be going before the Wenham CPC on Tuesday, September 18th to request \$50,000 from Wenham to help pay for the site planning for the pool. If Wenham votes to recommend the \$50,000 for their Special Town Meeting, then the Hamilton portion would go down to \$100,000. The CPC has one more regularly scheduled meeting before Special Town Meeting. Christine suggested that at that meeting, the CPC could vote to reduce their amount by \$50,000 if the Wenham CPC vote is successful. Christine reported that the pool committee has just been selected to help determine what the pool project will consist of. Jennifer reported that there are 5 members on the newly formed Pool Committee, one of which will be a Recreation Board member. Ray asked why the Recreation Board isn't driving the project. Jennifer said that the project will need to involve so many boards, and it is important to build community support.

Peter asked how the pool concept is going to be developed. Jennifer said the Pool Committee is going to start at the beginning, even asking whether the pool should be shut down. Ed said that currently there is no determination as to what the site can support. Ray said that it's the Recreation Board that runs the park program and the pool. We need to ask what they need to support their programs. There was a sense that the Recreation Board is being bypassed. How do we know what's needed? Jennifer reported that the Recreation Master Plan will hopefully address many of these questions.

As the last CPC meeting, the Committee discussed tentatively approving the \$150,000 request but wanted to see whether Wenham would also consider sharing the request. The CPC also hoped that Sean would have a summary from Aquatics Group showing how the funds would be used. Christine circulated copies of the Aquatics Group proposal. Ed noted that the proposal doesn't get after what Ray is asking.

Peter added that its important to note that something has to happen and it's not going to happen until they have some engineering completed. Peter didn't think that a plan could really shape up until some engineering is completed. Peter said the CPC could always reduce the

amount on Town Meeting floor. Jay noted that there were two sketches that Sean brought into them. They were fairly elaborate.

Jennifer thinks that the Pool Committee will probably come up with a couple of alternatives, and then decisions will be made. Peter said that by involving both Towns and both CPC's, it provides a venue for a lot of hard questions to be asked so that the focus of the project gets narrowed down to what we want, and we're not going to get anywhere unless we spend some money.

The warrant language should be changed to read planning and site engineering. Jennifer noted that the Aquatics Group proposal includes costs that come much later in the process, like DEP approval. That is not what is included in the CPC's recommendation. The CPC is just talking about funding stage 1; to help all the departments and committees determine what will be stage 2.

Ray expressed concern about how the pool design is going to be determined. Jennifer said this initial study is asking what can we do, and the next stage will be what do we want to do and that the Pool Committee will help decide. Peter said that our charge is whether the CPC will appropriate the amount. The motion was made and seconded. Ed noted the importance of Ray's concern. He added that having a Pool Committee with only one member of the Recreation Board seems unbalanced. Jay noted that the Recreation Board is supportive of improvements to the pool. He added that the Recreation Board may get asked their opinion, but they have no power in the decisions. They are advisory.

Peter felt that the community would feel this was a relevant use of their CPA dollars. The discussion was closed. The vote in support of \$150,000 for the planning and site engineering of the Patton Park pool was unanimous.

Review of Town Meeting Warrant Budget

Christine will revise the warrant to state that the \$150,000 is not to be exceeded and clarify the use of the funds as for site engineering and planning.

Community Preservation Plan

Christine circulated that the old Community Preservation Plan via email last week. Christine inquired whether anyone had any thoughts on how we move forward. Christine suggested that as the new Recreation Master Plan is unveiled and the updated Housing Production Plan comes out, that she makes the appropriate edits and changes to the Community Preservation Plan to be reviewed by the CPC. The last time we completed the plan, Christine circulated the plan amongst all the Town Board and Committees seeking input and then held a Public Hearing. Christine will work on updating the Plan.

Meeting Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:25pm.