

**Town of Hamilton
Community Preservation Committee
April 29, 2010 Minutes**

Attendees

The meeting was held in the meeting room at the Hamilton-Wenham Recreation office at the Library with the following Committee members in attendance: Ed Howard, Ray Whipple, Tom Catalano, Peter Dana, and Jay Butler. Christine Berry as CPC Coordinator was also present. Melissa Roy, Recreation Director and David Santomenna, Essex County Greenbelt Association, were also present to answer questions. With a quorum present the meeting was called to order at 8:25pm.

Administrative Request for Appraisal Costs

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss a request of \$1,900 in CPA administrative funds for an appraisal to state specifications of the Donovan property. The Donovan family has agreed to convey their property to the Town for \$700,000.00. Assuming the acquisition moves forward with all the necessary approvals, the Town would submit an application requesting state funds to offset the purchase price. State applications are due July 15th and the appraisal needs to get underway as soon as possible. The state grants under consideration at this time are the Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity (LAND) or Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) grants.

There were several concerns discussed about this project including on-going maintenance, sanitation needs, and abutters. The level of contribution from Wenham was also of significant concern.

Melissa Roy reported that maintenance is currently conducted by DPW staff. A port-a-toilet is located at the field and paid for by Youth Leagues. According to Melissa, a landscape architect recently determined that another field could not be developed at this site due to wetland and slope constraints.

The CPC felt that participation from Wenham is critical. Multi-sources of funding would need to be identified. Greenbelt is currently working to secure an option with the landowner to hold the property until March 2011. If the project moves forward, it will likely come before Town Meeting in October 2010.

The Committee voted to authorize the use of \$1,900.00 in CPA administrative funds to pay for an appraisal to state specifications to be submitted along with the state grant applications.

Meeting Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:10 pm.