

**Town of Hamilton
Community Preservation Committee
May 13, 2010 Minutes**

Attendees

The meeting was held in the Memorial Room of Town Hall with the following Committee members in attendance: Tom Catalano, Ed Howard, Ray Whipple, Leigh Keyser, Jay Butler and Chris Davis. Christine Berry as CPC Coordinator was also present. With a quorum present the meeting was called to order.

Acceptance of minutes from April 8th and April 29th CPC meeting

The minutes from the April 8th and April 29th CPC meeting were accepted.

CPA Assistance to Historic District Commission

Ed Howard and Tom Catalano suggested the CPC explore whether CPA funds could be used to fund a part-time coordinator position for the Historic District Commission (HDC) to assist with the administrative work required for the implementation of a Great Estates Bylaw and town-wide Demolition Delay Bylaw for historic homes, should they pass at Town Meeting. Currently the HDC rely on the Building Inspector's office and Town Counsel to assist with demolition delays. The HDC currently sees demolition in the historic commission two-four times per year. This would increase if the bylaw change occurs. Tom suggested the HDC could ask the Selectmen for a small amount of funding to assist with the implementation of the demolition delay bylaw. The great estates bylaw is being pursued by the Planning Board.

The Committee agreed that use of CPA funds for this type of use is inconsistent with the purposes of CPA and could provide a bad precedent for other groups who may try to tap CPA funds for staff positions.

CPC Member Recruitment

There are four CPC members whose terms of expiring at the end of June 2010. Chris Davis has taken a new job and feels he cannot renew for another term. This term is an at-large position nominated by the Board of Selectmen. Christine said that she would reach out to Susanna Colloredo-Mansfeld for ideas, would discuss with Michael Lombardo and include a notice in the newspaper.

Woodbury Street Path Update/Event

The Woodbury Street Path is complete. Some members of the Committee expressed concern that the trail seemed to end just after the bridge and did not provide a connection the sidewalk on Essex Street. Christine said that she would discuss with John and determine whether lines could be painted connecting the two paths.

The Committee discussed hosting a trail opening event, possibly on National Trails Day. Christine will contact Essex County Trails Association (ECTA) for help in coordinating and publicizing the event.

Donovan Property Discussion

The Donovans have agreed to sell their playing field property for \$700,000 to the Town of Hamilton. The property currently supports two multi-purpose fields and one soccer field. Due to the topography of the property and wetlands, there is no room for additional fields. A port-a-potty is provided by Youth Soccer. There is no need for sprinklers. Two grants are under consideration at this time are the Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity (LAND) or Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) grants. The Joint Recreation Board is actively looking for pledges; hopefully as much as \$50,000. Youth Soccer can probably contribute \$25,000. The Recreation Board is considering raising fees for three years which would yield \$60,000. Members of the Recreation Board and Melissa Roy will be meeting with the Wenham CPC next Wednesday. John Clemenzi of the Wenham Board of Selectmen has also asked to meet to discuss the project.

Jay Butler asked the CPC to think about a ballpark estimate about what they would be willing to contribute to this project. The CPC reiterated their concern that Wenham would have to contribute to this project. They talked about a potential 60/40 split. The CPC also expressed interest in bonding the property over a number of years.

Meeting Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 pm.