

**TOWN OF HAMILTON  
COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 9, 2006**

Attendees: The meeting was called to order at 7:30 in the Memorial Room of Town Hall with the following committee members in attendance: Peter Dana, Tom Catalano, Leigh Keyser, Bob Bullivant, David Carey, Peter Clark and Ray Whipple. Steve Kenney, of the Hamilton DPW attended the meeting to present several of the CPA project applications.

**Minutes:** The minutes for the meeting of February 2, 2006 were approved.

**Masconomet Grave Plaque:** Steve Kenney presented a proposal to create a cast Bronze plaque to commemorate the gravesite of Masconomet on Sagamore Hill. Currently a printed sign enclosed in an acrylic case marks the site. The current sign is in disrepair and in need of constant maintenance. The proposal calls for a bronze plaque to be permanently mounted to a boulder. Kenney will work with the Wampanoag tribe to come up with the text for the plaque. The proposed cost for the project is \$2,500.00. Bob Bullivant asked if there was an opportunity for the Wampanoags to contribute and Kenney said he would ask. Kenney also added that it was extremely unlikely that any Federal monies could be obtained for the project. This project was taken under advisement.

**Hamilton Cemetery Headstone Restoration:** This application is a proposal to restore damaged headstones at the Town owned cemetery. The application was by Steve Kenney of the DPW. The proposal is to restore the headstones using an epoxy and pinning method. The cost will be \$6,000.00 for repairing 12 damaged headstones. The work has been proposed in the past but funding was never made available. The committee suggested that the applicant get the Historical Society to write a letter to the paper to garner support for the project. This project was taken under advisement.

**Patton Park Baseball Field Re-Grading:** This application is for the filling in of a low area in the existing baseball field at Patton Park. The field is plagued by drainage problems. During Steve Kenney's presentation it was mentioned that the Recreation Department may be able to fund this project in its entirety lessening or eliminating the issue of Hamilton funding Recreation items that benefit both Hamilton and Wenham. Dave Carey suggested the formation of a subcommittee to study all of the recreation and athletic field issues. The CPC agreed to take this project and the formation of a subcommittee under advisement.

**School Street Well Protection Area:** Steve Kenney presented the Town's need to acquire protective easements on the land around the School Street well as mandated by the State DEP. The Town has already spent \$50,000 in legal costs and other expenses related to the acquisition of easements. The application is for another \$27,000 to complete the process of protecting the land around the well. Since this application is an acquisition of property it will require a vote at the next Town Meeting. This project was taken under advisement.

**Woodbury Street Path:** The committee read into it's record a letter from William Fields, dated February 8, 2006, outlining his opposition to the proposed completion of the Woodbury Street path. Brad Kimball, of the Road Safety Committee, rebutted a few of the points raised in the letter. The CPC members asked the applicant to verify the issue of whether they had "promised" the Selectmen that no public funds would be used for the path. Brad Kimball agreed to check with Candace to find the minutes from the selectman's meeting where the promise may have been made. The following questions came up as a result of the discussion of the proposal: How much has been spent to date on the Woodbury Street path? How much of that money was in the form of grants and how much has the Town spent? What did the selectmen say in their initial meeting on the project? What is the resistance to the project? What is the cost to complete the entire Woodbury Street path? Is the proposal definitely fundable under the CPA regulations? This project was taken under advisement.

**General Issues:** Dave Carey offered to chair the recreation subcommittee of the CPC. He suggested that Lindle Willnow also be a member of the subcommittee and that they would study the issues of funding items that would benefit both Hamilton and Wenham through the joint recreation department. Peter Clark offered to be an alternate member of the recreation subcommittee of the CPC.

Peter Dana reiterated his concern that CPA monies not be used to fund projects on school properties but rather for the creation of more recreation space that may be used by the schools as well as other interests in town. The CPC committee as a whole agreed that it must be careful to spend any funds in a way that does not seem to be getting around school budget override issues.

Bob Bullivant reminded the CPC that the warrant for the Town Meeting closes on March 27 and reminded the CPC had planned to meet with the Selectmen and the fincom tentatively on March 6.

Based on the previous three meetings the CPC has the following list of proposals before it:

25% set aside for future spending (Open space, historic preservation or affordable housing)	\$145,000
Kitchen renovations for the Hamilton Housing Authority (Affordable Housing)	\$120,000
Paid affordable housing consultant (Affordable Housing)	\$35,000
CPC administrative staff (Allowable under the CPA statute)	\$25,000

Repair of Town Hall Ceiling and HVAC system (Historic Preservation)	\$58,000
School Street Well Protection (Open Space)	\$27,000
Masconomet Plaque (Historic Preservation)	\$2,500
Patton Park Ball Field (Open Space & Recreation)	\$12,000
Town Cemetery Headstone Repair (Historic Preservation)	\$6,000
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$430,500</b>
Proposals in question	
Old Library Re-use Study (Recreation)	\$10,000
Woodbury Street Path (Recreation)	\$95,000

-The meeting terminated at about 9:30.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting is this Thursday February 16, at 7:30 in the Memorial Room.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Tom Catalano