

**Town of Hamilton  
Community Preservation Committee  
March 13, 2008**

**Attendees**

The meeting was held in the Town Administrator's office of Town Hall with the following Committee members in attendance: Tom Catalano, Leigh Keyser, Ray Whipple, Peter Clark, Peter Dana, and Lindle Willnow. A quorum was present. Christine Berry as CPC Coordinator was also present.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

The minutes from the February 7<sup>th</sup> and February 14<sup>th</sup> meetings were approved.

**HW Community House Portico Preservation Project – FY09 CPA Funding**

The Wenham CPC has decided not to fund the HW Community House Portico Preservation Project. Various individuals associated with the Community House will be putting pressure on the Wenham CPC asking them to reconsider their decision. The Committee felt they should not change their recommendation at this time. The Wenham CPC will be discussing this project again at their March 27<sup>th</sup> meeting. Because this is the same day that Allison needs final warrant language and timing is tight, the Committee decided to keep their original recommendation. If the final decision of the Wenham CPC is to not fund the Community House and the Committee still wants to go ahead with funding the project, then the Committee can adjust the warrant language at Town Meeting floor.

Christine said she would get a list of Wenham CPC FY09 project recommendations from Patrick Wilson. She will circulate amongst the Committee. The Wenham CPC may be reluctant to fund projects outside of Wenham. However, Hamilton provided CPA funding to the Pleasant Pond project despite being located in Wenham.

**First Congregational Church of Hamilton – Public Benefit Agreement**

It was recommended by Town Counsel and others that the Committee have a public benefit agreement in place with the First Congregational Church of Hamilton (FCCH) as a condition of receiving CPA funds, similar to the one with Asbury Grove. Chris Davis offered to draft the agreement with the FCCH. Ideas for ensuring public benefit were discussed and included an access easement for repair and maintenance and the right for the Board of Selectmen to ring the bell at certain times throughout the year, such as the start of the Memorial Day Parade. Whereas clauses should include brief history and CPA funding ensuring continued use of bell through the financing of the installation of a new striking mechanism. The FCCH will have control of the bell for occurrences other than time. The Town may want to have a two to three person committee to set a policy with the Church on bell-ringing, including discussion of ringing after day-light hours.

**Approval of FY09 Town Meeting Warrant Language**

The Committee discussed the draft CPA warrant language for Town Meeting that Christine previously circulated for review. Clarifications were made to the language describing the bell at the First Congregational Church, the Community House portico preservation project, the Weaver Pond project, the open space set aside, the community housing set aside, and the

appropriation for administrative purposes. Christine will circulate the revised draft for the Committee to review.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm in the Memorial Room at Town Hall.

**Meeting Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:30pm.