

**Town of Hamilton
Community Preservation Committee
March 8, 2007**

Attendees

The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:30pm in the Memorial Room of Town Hall with the following Committee members in attendance: Tom Catalano, Bob Bullivant, Peter Clark, David Carey, Peter Dana, Lindle Willnow, Ray Whipple, and Leigh Keyser. Christine Berry as CPC Coordinator was also present.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The minutes, with edits, from the March 1st meeting were approved.

Recommendations for FY08 CPA Projects

The primary intent of this meeting was to make recommendations on which project proposals should move forward for FY08 CPA funding.

Hamilton Veteran's Honor Roll: Butch Crosbie's letter of support was read to the Committee. This type of project was cited on the CPC (Community Preservation Coalition) web page as an example of a project that does not meet the Historic Resources criteria. The project proposes a "replacement" of a former memorial that no longer exists. While the Committee was very supportive of this project, it is outside the scope of the CPA, and the Committee voted not to recommend funding. CPA funds may be spent on historic preservation of resources that are actually historic. While this memorial will commemorate historical events, it is not historic itself as it was just recently constructed. Christine will compose letters to the unsuccessful applicants thanking them for their interest, but regrettably denying their requests based on not meeting CPA criteria.

Conservation Fund Contribution: The Committee voted not to recommend funding this proposal at this time. Reasons cited at previous meetings include the ability to call an emergency Town Meeting if the need arose and having funding available to promote and discuss the Town's open space program.

Laptop Purchase for the MA Conservation Mapping Assistance Partnership Program (MACMAPP GIS): The Committee voted to recommend this project subject to receiving a letter from project proponent Virginia Cookson detailing how this proposal is in concert with the Town's efforts to expand access and use of GIS.

Repair/Replace Patton Park Garage: The Committee voted not to recommend this project as it is deferred maintenance cost which does not qualify under the CPA criteria for recreation.

Buker School Gym Floor Replacement: The Committee voted not to recommend this project as it does not qualify under either the recreation or historic resources criteria. Specifically, language in the CPA does not allow for funding for gymnasiums.

Patton Park Geese Management Program: The Committee acknowledged that this is a terrible problem and was supportive of the project, but did not recommend this project for CPA funding. Ultimately, this is a proposal for maintenance and an annual operating expenditure. There were also concerns expressed about approving a project that would likely cause public controversy over the spraying.

HW Community House Portico Repair Design: The Committee voted to recommend this project for funding.

Conservation of Historic Town Documents: The cost for this proposal has increased to \$16,346 to reflect the cost of scanning the documents. The Committee voted to recommend this project for funding.

Chebaaco Woods Trail Restoration: The project proponent had requested equal funds in the amount of \$15,000 each from Hamilton CPA and Manchester CPA. Manchester is unable to fund the full request and has decided to contribute only \$5,000. Based on the impressive merits of this proposal, the Committee decided to fund \$10,000 in addition to the original \$15,000 request. The Committee voted to recommend funding in the amount of \$25,000 for this proposal.

Pleasant Pond Landscape Improvement Plan: Although this facility is open to residents in both towns, it will likely provide a benefit to many more Wenham residents than Hamilton residents due to its proximity to Wenham neighborhoods. The Committee voted to recommend funding this proposal by matching Wenham's CPA contribution, up to \$40,000. This recommendation is subject to the condition that the Pleasant Pond Association maintain the existing trail access from Hamilton, and that the general site work be sequenced and that property be kept in usable condition at all times.

Gathering Places -Construction of picnic tables, trash bins, and bike racks: The Committee voted to recommend this project for funding subject to coordination and support from the Hamilton DPW and any other entities whose property may be the benefit of this equipment.

Energy Audit: The updated estimate for the energy audit at Town Hall has come in at \$9,000. Concerns were raised that this estimate seemed high. The Committee suggested securing a second estimate. The Committee recommended this project for CPA funding in an amount not to exceed \$7,500.

Replace Underground Wiring and Lights at Patton Park: A more thorough bid detailing the wire replacement and additional light should be secured by Steve Kenney. The Committee voted to recommend funding this proposal in an amount of \$25,000.

Vaulted/Dome Ceiling Repair at Town Hall: The Committee voted to recommend funding for this proposal.

Woodbury Street Path Proposal: The Committee voted to recommend funding for this proposal. A suggestion was made that the Committee should think about how to handle the potential controversy this project may cause at Town Meeting.

Landfill Reuse Study: The Committee recommended funding for this proposal subject to confirmation that this work will complete the study required by DEP to formally close the landfill. Christine will confirm the amount requested from CPA funds.

Model T Building: The Committee recommended funding for this proposal.

Tom will present the approved project list to the Board of Selectmen in the near future.

Community Preservation Coalition Annual Membership

The CP Coalition is moving to a membership-based organization. The fee is based on a sliding scale that is calculated based on the town's CPA surcharge. Hamilton's fee would be \$1,500 and could be paid for using the Town's CPA administration funds. The CPC provides tremendous support to communities and has been a valuable resource. The Committee voted to approve funding this membership.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 12th, at 7:30pm in the Memorial Room at Town Hall.

Meeting Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:25pm.