



**TOWN OF
GROTON**
173 Main Street
Groton, MA 01450

Community Preservation Committee
Russell Burke, Chair – Planning Board
Anna Eliot, Vice Chair – Parks Comm.
Bruce Easom, Treasurer – Conservation Comm.
Robert DeGroot, Clerk – Historical Comm.
Daniel Emerson – Housing Auth.
Carolyn Perkins – at large
Richard Hewitt – at large

MEETING MINUTES

Date: Monday, October 16, 2023
Time: 7:00 PM
Location: 1st Floor Meeting Room, Groton Town Hall
Members Present: Bruce Easom, Daniel Emerson, Russell Burke, Anna Eliot, Robert DeGroot, Carolyn Perkins, Richard Hewitt
Members Absent:
Others Present: Katie Berry

The meeting was called to order by chair, Russell Burke at 7:07 PM.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION PLAN AMMENDMENT (DAN EMERSON)- Review of minor changes to wording on page 35 section 9 in the sample application, and on page 39 section 18. Bruce Easom moved to approve the amendments, Bob DeGroot seconded, and motion carried unanimously.

FY25 CPA APPLICATIONS UPDATES- The commission reviewed (2) CPA applications that have been submitted to this point, one from the Groton Conservation Commission, one from the Park Commission, and a letter of support from Mark Haddad for an upcoming CPA application from the Groton Historical Commission.

Other discussion-Russell Burke noted that he spoke to Mark Haddad regarding bonding for Middle School Track, he stated he is not going to complete permanent financing until final amount is prepared. The final amount will be available upon completion of the project. Anna Eliot asked if we know if it's a 10-year or 30-year bond, Russell Burke believed it will be 10.

PROJECT UPDATES

NEW PROJECT UPDATES

- 2024-01 Housing Trust Funds Request (CAROLYN PERKINS) Carolyn Perkins shared that they are still looking at properties, with a few leads. She also mentioned that they are working with the Conservation Commission to find eligible sites.
- 2024-02 Preservation of Lake Massapoag (ROBERT DEGROOT)- no updates.
- 2024-03 Conservation Fund FY2024 (BRUCE EASOM)- Bruce Easom stated that the Casella parcel on Nashua Road has been acquired. He also shared that there are other projects pending.
- 2024-04 Rebuild Major League Baseball Diamond (ANNA ELIOT)- Anna Eliot shared that Don Black is working to reduce the cost of the baseball diamond.
- 2024-05 Construct 2 Softball Diamonds at Cutler (ANNA ELIOT)- Anna Eliot stated that

- updates to Waitowicz Field will need to be complete before moving forward.
- 2024-07 Housing Coordinator FY2024 (CAROLYN PERKINS)- Carolyn stated that coordinator Fran Stanley is working, no updates.
 - 2024-09 Squannacook River Rail Trail (SRRT) (BRUCE EASOM)- Bruce Easom shared that Townsend and Groton volunteers spent time on Saturday October 14th to restore erosion controls in rail trail areas, approximately 40 people donating their time working, from Northern Crosswinds to Harbor Village in Townsend section. They are preparing for the next section of work which will start mid-November after turtle migration.

CONTINUED PROJECT UPDATES

- 2020-03 Conservation Fund (BRUCE EASOM)- Bruce Easom stated that this project can be closed out.
- 2019-08 Duck Pond Restoration (RICHARD HEWITT)- Richard Hewitt shared that the project is finishing up, the plan is for the aeration electric utility invoices to be paid through a new source of funding in FY25.
- 2022-01 Maintenance Shed Restoration (ROBERT DEGROOT)- Bob Degroot stated that just a coat of paint is needed to complete this project.
- 2022-02 Feasibility Study for Cow Pond Fields; Waitowicz Field; Cutler Field (ANNA ELIOT)- Anna Eliot stated that the engineer has been working on this project as well as the development across the road, information is forthcoming, and things are moving along.
- 2022-04 Affordable Housing Site Assessment Study (DANIEL EMERSON)- no updates.
- 2022-09 Groton Dunstable Natural Field Restoration Plan (BRUCE EASOM)- no updates.
- 2023-04 Nashua Riverwalk (CAROLYN PERKINS)- Carolyn Perkins shared an email from Paul Funch in which he asks if it's possible to use CPC funds in order to purchase tools in order to restore some trails in this area, as this project has been halted by the Department of Conservation and Recreation. Bruce Easom shared CPA guidelines, and suggested Carolyn Perkins reach out to the coalition to confirm applicability. Russell Burke shared that he felt it may be under maintenance, and not likely to be permitted.

NEW/OLD BUSINESS

- Sign Invoices/ Project letters- invoices and close out letters were signed by present members.
- Select next meeting date/time- The Community Preservation Committee will meet on Monday 10/30/23 at 7:00pm.

MEETING MINUTES

Committee members reviewed minutes from September 25th 2023. Anna Eliot moved to approve the meeting minutes from Monday, September 25th, 2023. Bruce Easom seconded and the motion carried with Richard Hewitt and Carolyn Perkins abstaining.

Committee members reviewed minutes from February 13th 2023. Anna Eliot moved to approve the meeting minutes from Monday, February 13th 2023. Bob DeGroot seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Bruce Easom moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:45PM. Richard Hewitt seconded, and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted by Katie Berry, Inter-Departmental Assistant

Approved: ____10/30/23_____