



**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 30, 2023
Time: 7:00 PM
Location: 1st Floor Meeting Room, Groton Town Hall
Members Present: Bruce Easom, Daniel Emerson, Russell Burke, Anna Eliot, Carolyn Perkins,
Richard Hewitt
Members Absent: Robert DeGroot
Others Present: Katie Berry

The meeting was called to order by chair, Russell Burke at 7:03 PM.

FY25 CPA APPLICATIONS- PRELIMINARY REVIEW- Russell Burke opened the meeting by stating that the Community Preservation Committee received (12) CPA applications for FY25, with requested amounts totaling \$1,271,434.00. The committee reviewed the project request amounts and Bruce Easom shared current unallocated reserve amount available as well as Housing, Historical Preservation, and Open Space/Recreation fund balances. The middle school track obligation withstanding from the provided accounting. The requested amounts from Open Space/Recreation exceed the balance, which would leave the option to utilize funds from the unallocated funds reserve, which has a balance of \$1,012, 715.94. The Housing and Historical Preservation funds have more than enough available in order to fund the requested projects. Bruce Easom mentioned utilization of a portion of funds to pay down principal towards the middle school track bonds, also mentioning that in the Spring, the commission will also have identified match amount from the registry. The committee carried some discussion on potential state match amounts, as well as the match calculation process. Anna Eliot mentioned that she wants to ensure the Capital Plan should not include usage of Community Preservation Committee funds. Bruce Easom stated that he will speak to Mark Haddad and the Town Accountant to review the middle school track payoff obligations. Carolyn Perkins asked about applicability for the proposed CPA application 2025-12-Tools and Equipment for Building and Enhancing Trails, the committee agreed that we should request conference with Town Counsel regarding this project as well as the proposed CPA application 2025-04- Sustainable Groton, regarding assessing the levels of carbon sequestration. Richard Hewitt shared that he has a few questions pertaining to proposed CPA Application 2025-05 Prescott School Building Assessment, regarding the intent of the assessment, as there is some wording regarding replacement of the Prescott School in the application. Anna Eliot drew a comparison to a prior Prescott School Bargmann Report that was done through Community Preservation Committee funds.

PROJECT UPDATES

NEW PROJECT UPDATES

- 2024-01 Housing Trust Funds Request (CAROLYN PERKINS) No updates.
- 2024-02 Preservation of Lake Massapoag (ROBERT DEGROOT) No updates.
- 2024-03 Conservation Fund FY2024 (BRUCE EASOM) Bruce Easom shared that the Conservation Commission just purchased land from the Marsh family on Reedy Meadow Road.
- 2024-04 Rebuild Major League Baseball Diamond (ANNA ELIOT) No updates.
- 2024-05 Construct 2 Softball Diamonds at Cutler (ANNA ELIOT) No updates.
- 2024-07 Housing Coordinator FY2024 (CAROLYN PERKINS) No updates.
- 2024-09 Squannacook River Rail Trail (SRRT) (BRUCE EASOM) Bruce Easom stated that they have installed the erosion controls for the next section and the Conservation Commission has done a site walk and inspected the work.

CONTINUED PROJECT UPDATES

- 2019-08 Duck Pond Restoration (RICHARD HEWITT) Richard Hewitt stated this will be the last month for running the pumps this year.
- 2022-01 Maintenance Shed Restoration (ROBERT DEGROOT) No updates, a coat of paint to the shed is all that is remaining.
- 2022-02 Feasibility Study for Cow Pond Fields; Waitowicz Field; Cutler Field (ANNA ELIOT) Anna Eliot shared that the Parks Commission has been involved with the Conservation Commission regarding parcel 39, working with engineer Matt Waterman in determining how to value portions of town property. Anna added that MEPA would like to see the drive down to the baseball fields be changed. Carolyn Perkins shared thoughts from the Housing Trust regarding removed town warrant articles that address proposed work in this area.
- 2022-04 Affordable Housing Site Assessment Study (DANIEL EMERSON) No updates.
- 2022-09 Groton Dunstable Natural Field Restoration Plan (BRUCE EASOM) No updates, Bruce Easom will check to see if the project is complete.
- 2023-04 Nashua Riverwalk (CAROLYN PERKINS) Carolyn Perkins shared that Paul Funch is working to move this project forward with the Department of Conservation and Recreation.

NEW/OLD BUSINESS

- Sign Invoices/ Project letters- invoices were signed by present members.
- Select next meeting date/time- The Community Preservation Committee will meet on Monday 11/13/23 at 7:00pm. Katie Berry will invite FY25 CPA Applicants to this meeting for verbal feedback on their applications.

MEETING MINUTES

Committee members reviewed minutes from October 16th 2023. Russell Burke moved to approve the meeting minutes from Monday, October 16th, 2023. Anna Eliot seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Bruce Easom moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:06PM. Carolyn Perkins seconded, and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted by Katie Berry, Inter-Departmental Assistant

Approved: ____11/13/23_____