



**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, January 22nd, 2024
Time: 7:00 PM
Location: 1st Floor Meeting Room, Groton Town Hall
Members Present: Bruce Easom, Daniel Emerson, Russell Burke, Carolyn Perkins, Anna Eliot,
Richard Hewitt, Robert DeGroot
Members Absent:
Others Present: Katie Berry, Fran Stanley, Peter Cunningham

The meeting was called to order by chair, Russell Burke at 7:05 PM.

FY 2025 CPA Project Complete Draft Proposals Review and Discussion-Russell Burke confirmed that the public hearing for the proposals will be held January 29th, 2024 at 7:00pm.

Dan Emerson stated that the date received should be noted on the 2025-01 Conservation Commission Fund FY25 on page 1. Katie Berry will replace the page in the committee's reference documents showing the date received. The commission reviewed the 2025-01 Conservation Commission Fund FY25 management plan, Richard Hewitt noted that the invasive species committee should be included. Carolyn Perkins mentioned, regarding projects, that the management plan should include a specific contact. The commission discussed that on the 2025-02 Cow Pond Play Fields, there are typos and formatting issues. Bob DeGroot stated that the management plan is lacking on 2025-02 Cow Pond Play Fields, as well as feasibility under item number 19 needs more development. Richard Hewitt asked about the Housing Trust building plans in the Cow Pond area. Bob DeGroot noted that on project 2025-03 Milestone Marker Restoration, the feasibility section 19 is incomplete. It was also noted that 2025-04 Pollinator Pathway, the proposed project start date is May 2024, and the project would be drawn from FY24 funds. Bob DeGroot stated that on 2025-05 Prescott School Building Assessment, the feasibility number 19 needs to be completed and that the project could use letters of support. Anna Eliot noted that she believed the project 2025-05 Prescott School Building Assessment to be a change of use, the discussion is tabled to the public hearing. Richard Hewitt mentioned that he would like to know if other sites were considered for the outdoor fitness court project 2025-06, and the rationale for selecting behind the library at Town Field. Bob DeGroot added that feasibility, item number 19, and letters of support are missing from 2025-06 Outdoor Fitness Court, also noting that the management plan could use more detail. Dan Emerson stated that on application 2025-07 Squannacook River Rail Trail, CPA purpose is not checked off, and that under number 9 project manager, a specific person should be noted. Carolyn Perkins asked if a historical restriction would be needed for the 2025-08 Bancroft Castle Preservation Study, and that all of item number 9 is incomplete with no project manager listed, the committee noted that the project might include

parking signage. Regarding 2025-09 Property Security, Safety, and Preservation, item number 19 feasibility needs to be completed, and that a letter of support could be considered from the Historical District Commission. On 2025-10 FY25 Housing Fun Request, there was a discussion, with Fran Stanley, on local preferences and eligibility restrictions for housing. Dan Emerson noted that on 2025-12 Tools and Equipment for Building and Enhancing Trails, that item number 9 needs to be completed. Anna Eliot added that the Park Commission moved to allow the Trails Committee to store equipment in the Town Field shed. Bruce Easom noted that Paul Funch should be sure to get a tax-exempt certificate so as to not pay taxes on the equipment purchases.

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) No updates.
- 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) No updates, celebration on trail progress coming up on June 1st, 2024.

REVIEW CONTINUED PROJECT UPDATES

- 2019-08 Duck Pond Restoration (RICHARD HEWITT) No updates.
- 2022-01 Maintenance Shed Restoration (ROBERT DEGROOT) No updates.
- 2022-02 Feasibility Study for Cow Pond Fields; Woitowicz Field; Cutler Field (ANNA ELIOT) Anna Eliot asked the committee if the 2022-02 project could be used as feasibility on the 2025-02 Cow Pond Play Field project, there was no discussion.
- 2022-04 Affordable Housing Site Assessment Study (DANIEL EMERSON) No updates.
- 2022-09 Groton Dunstable Natural Field Restoration Plan (BRUCE EASOM) Bruce Easom shared images of the new field area in order for the committee to select a place for the CPA signage.
- 2023-04 Nashua Riverwalk (CAROLYN PERKINS) No updates.

NEW/OLD BUSINESS

- Budget Discussion- Bruce Easom shared open project balances, Katie Berry, CPC Admin, will check on close out letters and write them as needed.
- Sign Invoices/ Project letters- The committee signed invoices.
- Next public meeting will be February 12, 2024 at 7:00pm.
- Public Hearing January 29th, 2024 at 7:00pm.

MEETING MINUTES

Committee members reviewed minutes from January 8, 2024. Richard Hewitt moved to approve the meeting minutes from Monday, January 8, 2024, Bob DeGroot seconded and the motion carried unanimously, Carolyn Perkins no longer present.

Dan Emerson moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:33PM. Bob DeGroot seconded, and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted by Katie Berry, Inter-Departmental Assistant

Approved: ___1/29/2024_____