



**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, March 25, 2024
Time: 7:00 PM
Location: 1st Floor Meeting Room, Town Hall
Members Present: Daniel Emerson, Russell Burke, Carolyn Perkins, Anna Eliot, Richard Hewitt,
Robert DeGroot, Bruce Easom
Members Absent:
Others Present: Aubrey Theall

The meeting was called to order by chair, Russell Burke at 7:00 PM.

Update on Presentation of CPC Warrant Articles to Town Meeting - Bruce Easom is to present motions for Articles 12 Community Preservation Funding Accounts and 13 Funding Recommendations for FY 2024. Russell Burke is to present Article 14 Funding Recommendations for FY 2025 with the Consent Agenda for 11 projects.

Update on Town Counsel Opinion of Preservation Restriction for Bancroft Castle Feasibility Study)- Aubrey Theall, of the Historical Commission, to receive feedback and discuss. Town Counsel responded to a request from the Community Preservation Committee as to whether the proposed FY25 project, 2025-08 Bancroft Castle Preservation required a preservation restriction. Town Counsel indicated that only when CPA funds are used to acquire an interest in property is a preservation restriction required under the Community Preservation Act, and suggested the Committee may revisit this issue if and when a subsequent project is proposed where CPA funding is used to make physical improvements to the structure.

Other Discussion; Note to Project Applicants recommending their presence at Town Meeting- Carolyn Perkins suggested an email be sent to the project applicants recommending they be present at Town Meeting to respond to any questions that may be raised with respect to their proposed project funding requests.

NEW PROJECT UPDATES

2024-01 Housing Trust Funds Request (CAROLYN PERKINS) No updates.

2024-02 Preservation of Lake Massapoag (ROBERT DEGROOT) No updates until Spring.

2024-03 Conservation Fund FY2024 (BRUCE EASOM) Bruce Easom shared that they are still waiting on the Conservation Restriction for the 82-acre Schofield property.

2024-04 Rebuild Major League Baseball Diamond (ANNA ELIOT) Anna Eliot shared that if the proposed Outdoor Fitness Court project passes, this project will be coordinated with it.

2024-05 Construct 2 Softball Diamonds at Cutler (ANNA ELIOT) Anna Eliot shared that once the grass at Woitowicz Field establishes, they will move forward with this project.

2024-07 Housing Coordinator FY2024 (CAROLYN PERKINS) No updates.

2024-09 Squannacook River Rail Trail (SRRT) (BRUCE EASOM) Bruce Easom shared that they are just waiting for a final coat and stone dust to complete this section of the rail trail.

REVIEW CONTINUED PROJECT UPDATES

2019-08 Duck Pond Restoration (RICHARD HEWITT) Bruce Easom noted that Bob Anderson requested a Certificate of Compliance from the Conservation Commission, which was to be held off until complete close out.

2022-01 Maintenance Shed Restoration (ROBERT DEGROOT) No updates until Spring.

2022-02 Feasibility Study for Cow Pond Fields; Woitowicz Field; Cutler Field (ANNA ELIOT) Anna Eliot shared that this project will work in conjunction with the proposed FY25 project 2025-02 Cow Pond Play Fields.

2022-04 Affordable Housing Site Assessment Study (DANIEL EMERSON) No updates.

2022-09 Groton Dunstable Natural Field Restoration Plan (BRUCE EASOM) Bruce Easom shared that placement of a CPA sign for this site, is going to be put on an upcoming Sign Committee agenda.

2023-04 Nashua Riverwalk (CAROLYN PERKINS) No updates.

NEW/OLD BUSINESS

- Budget Discussion- Bruce Easom shared the Monthly CPA Trust Fund Deposits from Registries of Deeds spreadsheet, showing the most recent update from January 2024. The committee reviewed funding data and trends
- Sign Invoices/ Project letters- 2 invoices were signed by the committee members.
- Next public meeting will be April 8, 2024 at 7:00pm.

MEETING MINUTES

Committee members reviewed minutes from March 11, 2024. Anna Eliot moved to approve the meeting minutes from Monday, March 11, 2024 as submitted, Richard Hewitt seconded and the motion carried, with Bruce Easom abstaining.

Carolyn Perkins moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:32PM. Bob DeGroot seconded, and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted by Katie Berry, Inter-Departmental Assistant

Approved: 4/8/2024