

Town of *Dunstable*
Community Preservation Committee
Minutes: November 24, 2014
Meeting called to order at 3:05

APPROVED

Present: Alan Chaney, Judy Larter, Carol Bacon, Joan Simmons, Sue Psaledakis, Chris Chisholm

Absent: Ken Leva, Catherine Irzyk, Parks Representative

Minutes

From June 19, 2014 were read. Alan moved to accept and Judy seconded. Minutes accepted unanimously.

Election of officers for FY 2015:

Sue Psaledakis as Chair, Catherine Irzyk as Secretary, motions passed unanimously.

CPA Coalition Membership

Continued membership in CPA Coalition moved by Judy, seconded by Alan. Unanimous.

Funding Requests

The committee also agreed unanimously that Sue and Alan would have permission to sign off on CPA funded payments when made by Town Treasurer.

The first funding request was presented by Alan. This request was for \$364,500 required by the state as the town's portion of the purchase of development rights of 41 acres of farmland on the corner of Fletcher and Hollis owned by George Tully. He has agreed to sell the development rights to this portion of the farm to the state, under the APR (Agricultural Preservation Restriction) program. The remainder of \$480,500 will come from MDAR (Mass Department of Agricultural Resources).

Christine Chisholm, who works for MDAR, attended the meeting to help answer questions regarding the program. She explained that the program has been in place since the early eighties and has saved 2,500 acres of farmland throughout the state. She also explained that farmland now has to meet stricter requirements regarding soil types, etc. Originally the state fully funded the program but now requires a portion of the funding to come from the town.

Alan confirmed that the Conservation Commission is in full support and that presentations would be made to other boards to enlist their support as well. Judy moved to grant this request for CPA funding and George seconded.

Further discussion revolved around how the funding would work, with the agreement that all available funds from the Open Space reserve would be used and the remainder would come from the unreserved. The town accountant had indicated that adequate funding should be available from the FY15 CPA accounts. If it should turn out that this is not the case we will explore the use of BANS as were used for the Best Triangle purchase.

There was also discussion regarding the request asking for the funds for the current FY. It was strongly felt by the applicants that it would be preferable if the purchase could be completed prior to July 2015. The motion to fund this request passed unanimously.

The second request was presented by Carol Bacon representing the Historic Commission. The original request was for \$50,000, with \$25,000 to come from FY15 and an additional \$25,000 from FY16 to disbind, clean, deacidify, repair and rebind town vital records, town meeting records, and Selectmen's records for the 18th, 19th, and 20th Centuries.

Carol explained that the materials would be scanned onto discs and microfilm. The request continued to say that if feasible they would like to continue for a third year of funding to work on street layout records and maps. It was suggested that we include that third year of funding in this request. The request was altered to total \$75,000 over three years starting with FY15 and to be funded from the Historic Reserve which currently has over \$200,000 available.

Judy moved to grant the request for funding the full amount over three years from Historic reserve, and George seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 4:10.

Minutes submitted by *Susan Psaledakis*