

Community Preservation Committee
Minutes of Meeting
September 15, 2010
Hildreth House

Members present: Steve Rowse, Charlie Gorss, Don Boyce, Chris Cutler, John Lee, Deb Thomson
Others present: Mort Miller, Bill Johnson, Nick Browse

Steve called the meeting to order at 7 pm. The meeting minutes for June 15th were approved as amended. Deb will send the minutes to Julie Doucet/Janet Vellante.

Don reported that he has not updated the website but will do so soon. Steve reported that there were no updates on new projects.

Jon Lee reported that the bike path project is close to completion. The Woodland trail section is done from Depot Road to Blanchard Road. Signs will be installed and the bridge will be reinforced to accommodate horses. Striping needs to be finished on Depot Road and Lancaster County Road. Steve said he would update the state data base.

Bill and Nick reported on the Bare Hill Pond stormwater project. The pump station allows deep drawdown and is being phased in by annual increments. The maximum drawdown will be 8 feet. Phosphorus eradication efforts continue with the construction of 6 stormwater collection systems. Approximately \$200,000 is left from the original grant funds and they are looking at 3 other possible collection sites. They are also redoing the beach/parking lot/boat ramp areas with 60% funding from the state and a 40% match from the town.. Bill said they would like an additional \$73,000 from the CPC to make the match. Steve pointed out that the CPC cannot replace town funding, just supplement it.

Mort Miller gave an update on the Municipal Affordable Housing Trust Fund. They are moving towards smaller rehabilitation of units rather than new construction. They are working with the Planning Board to identify possible sites but are limited by resident resistance to affordable housing. Mort said there has been little progress on the Ayer Road site. Currently the MAHT has \$233,000 in unencumbered funds.

Marie Sobalvarro reported on activities of the Municipal Building Committee. Their goal is to improve the quality of activities in town buildings. This could include the sale or lease of buildings. They are pursuing a variety of grants and are considering the following improvements and uses for town buildings:

- Town Hall – Complete required upgrades, build a walkway to the old fire station, renovation of second story, construction of a new senior center;
- Old Library – Upgrade, use as a community center, use for the Council on Aging,;
- Hildreth House – Upgrade, expand porch, construct a new building.

Steve reported on the recent All Boards meeting. The town needs to develop a 5 year strategic spending plan as 5 years out the town will have a \$1 million budget gap. The CPC should do outreach to groups concerning their future spending plans.

Members discussed electing officers for the upcoming year. After some discussion members voted to elect Don Boyce as President, Steve Rowse as Treasurer and Deb Thomson as Clerk. The Committee currently needs additional members from the Housing Authority and the Planning Board..

The next Meeting will be held on October 20, 2010. The meeting adjourned at 9 pm.