

Community Preservation Committee  
Minutes of Meeting  
October 19, 2011  
Hildreth House

Members present: Charlie Gorss, Don Boyce, Deb Thomson, Debbie Ricci, Michelle Catalina, Chris Ready, Rhonda Sprague, Jon Lee

Meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm. Minutes of September 21, 2011 were approved as amended. Don welcomed new member Chris Ready.

Members discussed the All Boards meeting and the development of 5 year plans. Don noted that some proposed plans include items that could be funded by the CPC. This includes Park and Recreation and Bare Hill Pond Committees as well as the Municipal Building Committee. Don raised the issue of how to make the CPC 5 year plan more “strategic”.

Don reviewed the time schedule for grant applications and approval. Deb Ricci suggested that grant applications be posted on the CPC website.

Members reviewed the pending applications. The following points were made:

**1. MAHTF**

There would be a huge cost to repair the Inn and Great Elms. Should the properties continue to be affordable housing? Would it be better to sell the properties? There is an outstanding loan from the state that must be repaid if it is not used for affordable housing. MAHTF is seeking a professional opinion as to the best future course for the buildings.

**2. Cemetery Commission**

The Historical Commission should be included in the process of considering their grant application. Rhonda will ask if the Historical Commission will support the application.

**3. Congregational Church**

It is not clear whether the Historical Commission has approved their proposed renovation. Deb Ricci will contact Pat Jennings to clarify.

**4. Conservation Commission**

Members questioned whether the grant application for removal of invasive species meets the CPC standards.

**5. Municipal Building Committee**

There is a question as to whether all the proposed improvements to the town buildings fit within the CPC standards. Items to be funded with CPC funds should be identified and segregated.

**6. Documents Preservation**

The Historical Commission has not approved the grant application. Rhonda will contact them to clarify.

Members established the following schedule for grant applications:

- November 16<sup>th</sup>
  - 7:15 – 7:45 Conservation Commission
  - 7:45 – 8:15 Town documents
  - 8:15 – 8:45 Congregational Church
- November 30<sup>th</sup>
  - 7:15 – 7:45 Municipal Building Committee
  - 7:45 – 8:15 Mass Affordable Housing Trust
  - 8:15 – 8:45 Cemetery Commission

Michelle reported on Master Plan activities. The League of Women Voters has scheduled 3 forums to get public input into the process. Currently they are working on selection of a consultant. They have established working groups on Commercial Development, Town Center, Devens and Energy.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

