

**COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
TOWN OF NEEDHAM, MASSACHUSETTS**

**Minutes of Meeting
September 12, 2012**

Present: Mark Gluesing – Chairman, Janet Bernardo – Vice Chairman, Gary Crossen, Reg Foster, Mike Retzky, Paul Siegenthaler, Sam Warner, Lita Young

Absent: Carol Boulris

Town Staff: Patricia Carey – Staff Liaison
Nicole DiCicco – Recording Secretary

Guests: Jerry Wasserman, Chairman, Board of Selectmen
John Bulian, Board of Selectmen
Matt Borrelli, Board of Selectmen
Kate Fitzpatrick, Town Manager
Alison Borrelli, Greene's Field Playground Working Group/
Greene's Field Fundraising Committee
Mary Ann Pierce, Greene's Field Playground Working Group/
Greene's Field Fundraising Committee
Jennifer McGrady, Greene's Field Fundraising Committee
Richard Merson, Director of the Department of Public Works
Edward Olsen, DPW Parks and Forestry Superintendent
Tad Staley, Bay Colony Rail Trail Committee
Lynn & Ethan Cattanaach, 197 High Rock Street
(*Observing meeting for Boy Scout badge*)
Louise Miller, 5 North Hill Avenue/ Newman Playground Committee

The meeting convened at 7:35PM in the Charles River Conference Room located in the Public Services Administration Building (PSAB).

FY2013-2 Greene's Field Project: Town Manager Kate Fitzpatrick presented the Town's answers to the CPC questions, with assistance for Parks and Forestry Superintendent Ed Olsen, and Selectmen Jerry Wasserman, John Bulian and Matt Borrelli. [See Addendum 1] Mr. Crossen asked how the Town established their estimates on the plan, wanting to insure enough funds were requested. He used irrigation as an example. Mr. Olsen explained that he has overseen several similar projects to the irrigation portion of Greene's Field in the past two years, so all estimates are based on actual costs of those similar projects as well as estimates provided by companies which provide irrigation services.

With the expectation of \$50,000 to be fundraised by the Greene's Field Fundraising Committee, Ms. Bernardo asked what, if anything they have already raised and what the expected timeline of the fundraising is. Alison Borrelli answered for the Fundraising Committee, explaining how they have only held one event so far, but that raised \$8,000 in one day. With many more events planned for the near future, the Fundraising Committee believes that the \$50,000 goal would be reached or exceeded by spring 2013. This estimate also coincides perfectly with the proposed timeline presented by the Town to phase the Greene's Field Project over three "playing seasons". The purchase and installation of the playground equipment would begin in spring 2013. After the spring sports season, construction would begin on the fields in summer, allowing plenty of time for the construction to be completed and for the grass to grow proper root systems before re-opening in fall for the youth programs to use again. The importance of this proposed scheduling is why the Town applied for this project to be included on the Special Town Meeting warrant instead of waiting for Town Meeting in May.

Parking conflicts and a lack of restrooms on the site were also questioned, but with the closing of the Stephen Palmer Senior Center location the Town feels that parking issues during the busiest times of day will be greatly reduced as on-street parking would no longer be permitted to the Senior Center. The lack of on-site restrooms is something that had been researched, but was not a feature that was compatible with the layout of the site.

The proponents will provide back-up information on the estimates.

Bay Colony Rail Trail Request: After a brief review of the Bay Colony Rail Trail request, and of the options the Committee has in moving forward with this request, **Mr. Siegenthaler made a motion to present the Bay Colony Rail Trail request to be presented as a FY2013 project as part of the Special Town Meeting warrant and for funding to not come out of the Committees Administrative Funds. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bernardo and was approved, 6 – 2.**

FY2013-1 Charles River Center South Street Home: Ms. Young has continued to be in contact with Maria McTernan of the Charles River Center (CRC). The CRC is scheduled to meet with the Conservation Committee on some final issues, and is coordinating with NSTAR on easement issues. Planning Director Lee Newman is working with CRC on the possibility of approximately \$280,000 of Home funds. The Planning Board will hold a public hearing on the funds in mid-October.

CPA Planning Summit: The Committee had several members in attendance for the Planning Summit held on Thursday, August 30, 2012. Mr. Gluesing, Ms. Bernardo, Mr. Foster, Mr. Siegenthaler and Mr. Warner attended in order to observe the meeting for CPC reference, while Mr. Retzky attended as required for his position as Chairman of the Park and Recreation Commission. All the boards in attendance are now collecting more detail on their respective projects in preparation for another meeting in October.

Chairman's Updates: The School Committee has discussed the possibility of having an official liaison to the CPC with Mr. Gluesing. The liaison would not be a voting member, but would receive information provided to CPC members. By consensus, the CPC supported the appointment of a School Committee liaison.

Meeting Minutes – August 22, 2012: Ms. Bernardo made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 22, 2012 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Siegenthaler and was approved unanimously.

Fall Meeting Schedule:

- Wednesday, October 10th, 7:30PM – Public Hearing
- Wednesday, October 17th, 7:30PM – Meeting to Vote on Projects
- Monday, October 29, 2012, 7:30PM– Special Town Meeting

Topics for Future Agendas: Ms. Carey mentioned that the Committee may want to update the Needham CPC Plan, which was last reviewed two years ago, to represent the changes in CPA Legislation.

Adjournment: Ms. Bernardo made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:40PM. Ms. Young seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 9:40PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole DiCicco
Recording Secretary