



TOWN OF WHATELY
Whately, Massachusetts 01093

Community Preservation Committee
Alan Sanderson Jr., Chair

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2023

by Zoom

Present: Alan Sanderson, Doug Coldwell, Judy Markland, Andrew Ostrowski, Donna Wiley,
Chris Williams

Absent: Catherine Wolkowicz

Alan Sanderson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

The Committee approved minutes from the meeting of August 9, 2023 unanimously.

Regarding this year's update of the Town's CPA plan:

- Housing Committee will review its priorities at its November meeting.
- Recreation, which has not reviewed its priorities for some time, will meet to discuss an update. Judy Markland suggested adding parking access to the trails on state Fish and Wildlife property. Donna Wiley recommended review of the Town's 2021 Open Space and Recreation Plan, which includes a number of priorities identified by Whately residents.
- Judy and Andrew Ostrowski confirmed that there are little or no changes to the open space map included in the 2023 CPA plan.
- Historical Commission revised its priorities in 2023, but will review them at a November meeting.

Regarding grants in progress:

- Alan reported that the grant agreement with Quonquont has been signed and the deed restriction filed with the Franklin County Registry of Deeds.

- Judy reported that work had stopped for several months on restoration of the Church windows, as the window restorer has been ill. Church leadership is hopeful that restoration work will resume soon, based on a recent communication from the restorer.
- Donna Wiley reported that the granite benches for the Cemeteries have been received. With volunteer assistance, the benches in the Center Cemetery are installed. The Highway Department will assist with installation in the East and West Cemeteries when time permits.

The Committee agreed that the sample applications circulated by Judy represent good examples for future applicants. Judy will make a few changes, as discussed, to the introductory text she had drafted, and post the introduction and sample applications before the call for December applications is issued.

Alan reported that a Town resident has advocated moving the Milk Bottle, owned by the Whately Historical Society, to another location. Judy noted that such a move would not be eligible for CPA funding. Donna reported that the Historical Commission, Massachusetts Historical Commission, and Selectboard/Town administrator have been working since March on a preservation restriction document that would protect both the Center School, when sold, and the Milk Bottle. As soon as the Town has completed a survey of the Center School property, a Request for Proposals for sale of the Center School will be issued.

Judy reported that Jessica Murphy's administrative support for the CPC is going well. The Town accountant provides complete and accurate information, which is very helpful, and the state is posting more complete information on its website, as well.

After a review of the June 30, 2023 Community Preservation Project History report, Alan asked Chris Williams to determine whether the Ice Rink project is complete, in which case unspent funds could be returned to the CPA accounts.

Alan noted Catherine Wolkowicz' invitation to CPC members to attend a forum on affordable housing.

The next meeting of the CPC will be held on Wednesday, November 9, at 5:00 p.m. via Zoom. As Donna will be out of town, Chris agreed to serve as Zoom host and Judy agreed to take minutes for the meeting.

Alan adjourned the meeting at 5:35 p.m.