

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

**Minutes of Meeting
July 15, 2009**

Present: Jane Howard – Chairman, Mark Gluesing – Vice-Chairman
Jack Cogswell, John Comando, Brian Nadler, Sheila Pransky

Absent: Janet Bernardo, Bruce Eisenhut, Paul Siegenthaler

Town Staff: Patricia Carey, Staff Liaison
Nicole DiCicco, Acting Recording Secretary

Guests: Dan Matthews, Selectman

The meeting convened at 7:35 PM in the Broadmeadow School Performance Center.

Annual Reorganization Meeting – Election of Chairman: Ms. Carey asked for nominations for Chairman of the Community Preservation Committee. Mr. Comando made a motion to nominate Jane Howard to be the new Chairman for the Community Preservation Committee. Mr. Nadler seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. Ms. Carey called for the vote, and Ms. Howard was unanimously approved as Chairman of the Community Preservation Committee. Mr. Cogswell made a motion to nominate Mark Gluesing as Vice-Chairman of the Community Preservation Committee. Mr. Nadler seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. Ms. Carey called for the vote, and Mr. Gluesing was unanimously approved as the Vice-Chairman of the Community Preservation Committee.

Approval of Minutes: Mr. Nadler made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of June 17, 2009. Mr. Cogswell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously as amended.

Discussion - Community Preservation Legislation Amendment:

Ms. Howard welcomed Dan Matthews, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. Ms. Howard noted that the CPC had discussed sending a letter to the Community Preservation Coalition supporting the wording changes recommended in the amendment, but stating the CPC's objection to the amendments related to funding. The members and Mr. Matthews held a lengthy discussion on the merits of the amended language that would allow suburban communities to improve existing facilities, rather than not be able to spend funds due to a lack of availability of land to purchase. The members also discussed the merits to the changes to funding, but felt that Needham would not benefit from those changes. Other organizations and communities have supported the full bill, in order to get the sections important to their own groups passed, but there was a sense that others were not supportive of the funding proposals. Ms. Carey will work with Ms.

Howard on gathering the research and will continue to draft a letter to the Coalition that is personalized from the Needham perspective.

Discussion – Board of Selectman’s Annual Goals:

Mr. Matthews invited all members of the CPC and other boards to attend the Selectmen’s upcoming meeting regarding goals. This meeting will be “give and take” and a chance for other Town boards to give input on their priorities. He noted that a summit meeting with the boards with major financial responsibilities is listed on the goals (Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee, School Committee and CPC). Mr. Matthews asked if the timing of CPA requests could be changed. Ms. Howard reported that the CPC had discussed the timing question, but felt that the current schedule could work for all groups. Another discussion that might come up would be the CPC’s priority support for projects that are in the capital plan, but Ms. Pransky noted that many Town organizations (private non-profits) are not part of the capital plan yet provide vital services to the community that should be considered for funding.

Discussion – Review of CPC Plan:

Ms. Howard reminded the representatives of each board to review the goals listed in the CPC’s plan and report back to the CPC at the August meeting on any changes that might be needed. Ms. Howard, Mr. Gluesing and Mr. Comando will review the other sections of the CPC’s plan to recommend any updates.

Discussion – Summit Meeting with Selectmen and Finance Committee:

Discussed earlier in the meeting.

Other Business: Ms. Howard shared an update on the Town Hall renovation. Ms. Carey noted that work was underway at preparing the Town Hall departments for the move this winter.

Adjournment: Mr. Cogswell made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 PM.
Mr. Nadler seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole DiCicco
Acting Recording Secretary