

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

**Minutes of Meeting
April 10, 2013**

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

Absent: Carol Boulris, Paul Siegenthaler, Sam Warner

Guest: Connie Barr, Needham School Committee

Town Staff: Patricia Carey – Staff Liaison

The meeting convened at 7:40 PM at the Park and Recreation Office at the Public Services Administration Building.

Chairman's Updates: Mr. Gluesing reminded the members that the League of Women Voters will hold their warrant meeting on Monday, April 29, 2013 at 7:30 PM at Pollard. Ms. Young will represent the CPC in Precincts A/B; Mr. Retzky and Mr. Foster will be in C/D; Mr. Gluesing will be in E/F; Ms. Carey will be in G/H; and Ms. Bernardo will be in I/J.

Finance Committee Recommendations to Town Meeting: Mr. Gluesing attended the recent Finance Committee meeting. The FinCom voted to recommend approval of all proposals supported by the CPC. He noted that the Community Farm project elicited the most questions and was the only one not to be unanimously supported. The questions related to the CPC's discussions and reasons for the vote. Most of the FinCom members were pleased to know how much the Community Farm contributes back to the community. Ms. Carey noted that the FinCom liaisons for each project haven't been chosen, yet, but she will distribute the list to the CPC once it is available.

Preparation for Town Meeting: Once the representatives for the articles from the Selectmen and Finance Committee are known, Mr. Gluesing asked that the liaisons contact those individuals to coordinate how the information will be presented. At Town Meeting, each liaison will present the project, outlining how it meets the criteria for funding and why the CPC felt it was appropriate to recommend funding. The applicants should be available to answer any technical questions. Ms. Bernardo asked if the Selectmen had voted on each of the articles, but Ms. Carey said that had not been done, yet. The CPC will meet at 7 PM on Wednesday, May 8 prior to Town Meeting. The CPC members who are not Town Meeting members will be kept up-to-date on the progress of Town Meeting, so they will know when the articles are most likely to be discussed and voted. Ms. Carey stated that there were currently 51 articles on the warrant, and the CPC articles are number 30-37.

FY2013-4, Community Housing Specialist: No additional discussion.

FY2013-6, Open Space and Recreation Plan: No additional discussion.

FY2013-7, Reservoir Trail Design; Ridge Hill Loop Design: No additional discussion.

FY2013-8, Newman Fields & Eastman Conservation Trails: No additional discussion.

FY2013-9, Newman Pre-School Surfacing: No additional discussion.

FY2013-11, Mills Park Design: No additional discussion.

FY2013-12, Community Farm Soil Quality Improvements: Mr. Gluesing has kept in touch with the proponents since the last meeting. Selectman Dan Matthews had contacted Debbie Schmill to discuss his personal goal regarding the farm. He hopes to discuss sections of Ridge Hill near the building and the Nike Site with the Conservation Commission and the School Committee, to see if some land could be swapped to eventually move the farm over to Ridge Hill. Ms. Bernardo noted that the Conservation Commission has not been officially approached about this concept. Ms. Young asked if this concept could move forward quickly, and if it did, would it make more sense to wait on this soil improvement project. Mr. Gluesing contacted Mr. Matthews, as he was concerned that this discussion came up after the Selectmen had given input on the project. He was assured that it is a long-term concept and that there would not be any immediate effort to move the farm from the Nike Site. Ms. Bernardo asked if the current plans for the Community Farm will address the drainage issue enough to improve the soil conditions. Mr. Gluesing noted that the Farm is still working on developing the proper soil mix to assist with the drainage issue. Mr. Retzky assumes that the Community Farm would want to move much of the amended soil with them to any new site, after investing in creating a quality product. Ms. Young stated that if the move was within the next year, it would not make sense to fund the project, but it seemed to still just be a concept under discussion.

Update CPA Plan: Mr. Gluesing will coordinate a meeting time.

Minutes of Public Hearing – March 13, 2013: Mr. Gluesing asked that the word “together” be replaced with “separately” in the last sentence of FY2013-8 on page 3. He also asked that the last sentence of FY2013-12 be written as “Mr. Gluesing asked if the soil installation would be properly mixed and compacted.” **Mr. Retzky made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2013 Public Hearing, as amended. Ms. Bernardo seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.**

Minutes of Meeting – March 20, 2013: Mr. Gluesing asked under FY2013-12 that final sentence before the motion be reworded to state, “Considering this and School Department leasing term plans, Mr. Gluesing suggested the Committee consider providing funds for the project for one year in order to better evaluate if there are more serious drainage needs.” **Ms. Bernardo made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2013 meeting, as amended. Mr. Retzky seconded the motion and it was passed with six votes in favor and one abstention.**

Upcoming Schedule:

Town Meeting begins on Monday, May 6, 2013 at Powers Hall in Town Hall.
CPC Meeting will be held on Monday, May 8, 2013 at 7 PM at Town Hall.

Adjournment: Mr. Retzky made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 PM. Ms. Bernardo seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Carey
Staff Liaison