

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

FY'10 Annual Report

Community Preservation Committee

Members:

Jane Howard, Chairman
Mark Gluesing, Vice Chairman
Janet Bernardo
Jack Cogswell
John Comando
Bruce Eisenhut
Brian Nadler
Reg Foster
Paul Siegenthaler

Appointed by:

Board of Selectmen
Town Moderator
Conservation Commission
Historical Commission
Board of Selectmen
Planning Board
Park and Recreation Commission
Housing Authority
Town Moderator

Staff:

Patricia Carey, Staff Liaison
Nicole DiCicco, Recording Secretary

Purpose and Mission:

Massachusetts General Law (M.G.L.) Chapter 267 of the Acts of 2000, Section 2, defines community preservation as “the acquisition, creation and preservation of open space, the acquisition, creation and preservation of historic structures and landscapes and the creation and preservation of community housing.” Needham voted to accept the legislation in November 2004. The Community Preservation Committee is appointed to make recommendations for use of the Community Preservation Fund.

FY'10 Accomplishments and Activities

- The Needham Community Preservation Fund received its state distribution of \$481,111 from the Commonwealth in October 2009, a 34.81% match to Needham's surcharge. This was down from the prior year's 68% match of \$888,287.
- The Committee participated in a board summit with the Board of Selectmen and other Town boards to discuss the role of CPA in Needham.
- The Committee met with the Community Preservation Coalition to discuss proposed changes to the state CPA legislation. The Committee voted to support the changes proposed by the Coalition.

- The Committee held a public hearing in January, 2010, to gather public input on the revisions to the Needham Community Preservation Plan. The revised Plan was approved in January, 2010.
- The Committee held a public meeting in March, 2010, to gather public input on the proposals under review for funding.
- At the October, 2009 Special Town Meeting, the Committee recommended and Town Meeting approved the funding of the purchase of two parcels at Carol Road and Brewster Drive for open space.
- At the May, 2010 Annual Town Meeting, the Committee recommended and Town Meeting approved the funding of the following proposals:

\$ 57,500	Selectmen/Town Manager	Preservation of Historic Artifacts
\$ 40,000	Town Manager	Restoration of Purchased Open Space
\$ 767,500	Town Manager	Purchase of Open Space - Recreation
\$ 45,000	Charles River ARC	Group Home Energy Improvements

- According to the Community Preservation Coalition, the funding and bonding of the Town Hall project is the largest bonded project in the history of CPA in Massachusetts.
- The Committee's Administrative funds were used as a down payment for the purchase of recreation land and for a photographic record of Town Hall's historic features prior to renovation.
- In addition to funding the proposals at the Annual Town Meeting, and as required by the state legislation, funds were spent or put in reserve for Historic Resources, Community Housing, and Open Space. Remaining funds, totaling \$1,144,100 were placed in the Annual Reserve, for future projects in those categories or Recreation. Five percent of the revenue was put into the CPA Administrative budget.

Statistics

- The Community Preservation Fund has provided financial support to twenty three (23) projects, with a total of \$18,116,933.

Community Housing total	\$ 964,500
Open Space total	\$ 1,158,200
Historic Preservation total	\$ 15,161,733
Recreation total	\$ 832,500