

Community Preservation Committee 2011

The Community Preservation Committee (CPC) is in its tenth year of reviewing proposals for funding under the Community Preservation Act (CPA or Act, MGL Chapter 44B). Under the Act, funds may be used for the acquisition, creation and preservation of open space; acquisition, preservation, rehabilitation and restoration of historic resources; acquisition, creation and preservation of land for recreational use; creation, preservation and support of community housing; and the rehabilitation or restoration of such open space, recreation land and community housing that is acquired or created through the CPA. The CPC includes nine standing members, with representatives from the Town's Conservation Commission, Finance Committee, Historical Commission, Housing Authority, Park and Recreation Commission, Planning Board, Board of Selectmen, and two at-large citizen members appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The CPC is supported by Jody Kablack, Director of Planning and Community Development, and by part-time assistance from the Planning Office.

The CPA funds raised in FY11 through the local tax surcharge equaled \$1,495,563. For FY11 the Town also received \$431,234 in October 2010, a 29% revenue match from the state CPA trust fund, interest earnings of \$160,489, and a return of unused project funds in the amount of \$74,486, bringing total FY11 revenues to \$2,161,772. The CPC continues to support legislation aimed at increasing state matching funds for the program, however it continues to forecast conservatively and strives to approve a balanced project budget.

At the 2011 Annual Town Meeting, projects were presented in the areas of historic preservation (Hosmer chimney restoration, Wadsworth Cemetery gazebo restoration, Florence Hosmer gravestone, invasive species removal at Revolutionary War Cemetery, historic document preservation), open space and recreation opportunities (Fairbank Farm Development Rights purchased, Carding Mill Pond harvest of invasive plant species, walkway construction), and the creation of affordable community housing (funding for the Sudbury Housing Trust). The total face value cost of all projects approved at the 2011 Town Meeting was \$1,210,000. In addition, debt service expenses of \$1,226,556 for prior land acquisition projects and \$85,000 for administrative and operational needs of the CPC for FY12 were appropriated, bringing the total anticipated expenditures for FY12 to \$2,521,556.

Sudbury CPA monies held in reserve for future land acquisition and other projects have accumulated, and the unreserved fund balance at the end of fiscal year 2011 was approximately \$7.4 million.

Voters at the 2011 Annual Town Meeting voted to keep the CPA surcharge at 3%, and not reduce it to 1.5% as recommended in a petition article.

CPA funded projects that are underway or have recently been completed around Sudbury include restoration of historic Town Clerk documents, Hearse House restoration, design of the Town Center intersection, restoration of Town Hall windows, construction of the Sudbury Housing Authority duplex units, upgrading of the vaults in Town Hall, and completion of the North Road walkway. When there are projects happening, look for our signs noting "Sudbury Community Preservation Funds at Work."

Christopher Morely, Planning Board, Chair

Lynne H. Remington, At-large Member

Seamus O'Kelly, At-large Member

John C. Drobinski, Selectmen

Richard O. Bell, Conservation Commission

James A. Hill, Historical Commission

Richard Williamson, Park and Recreation Commission

Sherrill P. Cline, Housing Authority

William Kneeland, Finance Committee