

Community Preservation Committee

The Community Preservation Committee (“CPC”) is in its fifth year of existence and is currently 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, land for recreational use and community housing that is acquired or created through the CPA. The CPC, appointed by the Board of Selectmen, includes nine standing members, with representatives from the town’s Conservation Commission, Finance Committee, Historical Commission, Housing Authority, Planning Board, Park and Recreation Commission, Board of Selectmen, and two at-large citizen members. The CPC is supported by Jody A. Kablack, Planning Director, and is staffed by part-time assistance from Jennifer Burney, Assistant Town Planner.

At the 2006 Annual Town Meeting, projects were presented in the areas of preservation of open space (Carding Mill Pond Harvesting and Wayside Inn Site Study), historic preservation (Wayside Inn Site Study as well as Loring Parsonage, Hearse House and Cemetery Ironwork restoration projects), development of recreation opportunities (LS-Community Athletic Fields, Walkway Construction and Mahoney & Malone site feasibility studies), and creation of community housing (Funding for Sudbury Housing Authority Unit Purchases and Mahoney & Malone site feasibility studies). The total face value cost of all projects approved at the 2006 Town Meeting was approximately \$1,822,328; there was an off-setting roll-back of \$320,000 designated for Community Housing in 2003. In addition, debt service expenses of \$811,798 for prior projects and \$75,000 for administrative and operational needs of the CPC for FY07 were appropriated.

Projects before the CPC based on responses to the Request for Proposals issued in July of 2006 cover all categories of the Act. Hearings will be held before the CPC through December, 2006, and a Public Forum on all proposals will also be undertaken. At the time this report was completed, the total estimated costs of the projects before the Committee for consideration, not yet voted or approved, for FY08 is approximately \$1.6 million. Some of those projects include projected requests for additional funding in future fiscal years. The CPC’s project recommendations and proposed budget for future appropriations are based upon comment and deliberation during the hearings and at the Public Forum. The final project recommendations and CPC budget for FY08 will be presented in the form of Warrant Articles for discussion at the 2007 Annual Town Meeting.

The CPA funds raised in FY06 through the local tax surcharge equaled \$1,248,806. This was above the Committee’s conservative budgeted amount of \$1,100,000. The Town received a 100% match in October, 2006 from the state CPA registry, bringing revenues to \$2,497,612. The CPC expects a similar revenue stream from the local surcharge in the coming year and is hopeful of continued significant state matching funds for FY08. However the CPC notes that in November 2006, seven additional municipalities adopted the Community Preservation Act. Hence funding will be apportioned across a greater number of towns, thereby increasing the potential for future State matching levels to diminish. Our unreserved fund balance as of June, 2006 was approximately \$3,900,000.

This past year, Kelley Cronin served as representative for the Sudbury Housing Authority. In July 2006, Sherrill Cline agreed to take over that position. The Committee wishes to thank Ms. Cronin for her contributions and welcomes Ms. Cline as a new member of the Committee.

Christopher Morely, Planning Board, Co-Chair

Tara Nolan Reed, At-large Member, Co-Chair

Mark A. Kablack, At-large Member

John C. Drobinski, Selectmen

Richard Bell, Conservation Commission

Carole R. Wolfe, Historic Commission

Alan Jefts, Park and Recreation Commission

Sherrill Cline, Housing Authority

Sheila A. Stewart, Finance Committee