

Community Preservation Committee Annual Report

The Community Preservation Committee meets monthly at Town Hall and is comprised of a combination of at-large members and members representing certain existing Boards and Commissions in Norfolk. In the seven years since the adoption of the CPA by the voters in Norfolk, we have collected more than \$5.2 million in funds, with nearly 50% of that sum coming from State matching funds. As of the end of December 2008, we have an unencumbered balance of nearly \$1.7 million, exclusive of the funds earmarked for projects already approved. To date, the CPC has spent or allocated approximately \$3.5 million for projects within the Town of Norfolk. These projects fall under our mandated priorities: open space and recreation, affordable housing, and historic preservation.

During the past year, the Community Preservation Committee has reviewed funding applications and worked with various groups in Town to identify opportunities to expend CPA funds for projects that are consistent with the mission of the CPA and that will have long-term benefits for the Town of Norfolk. Some highlights of the year's activities are as follows:

- During the year, the Affordable Housing Assistance Program (previously the Down Payment Assistance Program) awarded a grant to one applicant.
- At the spring Town Meeting, voters approved CPC allocating \$300,000 to the Municipal Housing Trust for the purchase and rehabilitation of single family homes for affordable housing in Norfolk.
- Town Meeting also voted to appropriate \$32,000 to aid in the purchase of development rights through an Agricultural Preservation Restriction on 16 acres of land at the Millis' border (contingent on Millis' funding).
- Town Meeting voters rejected a \$1.1 million proposal to purchase 32 acres off Cranberry Meadow Road and Eagle Drive under a Chapter 61-A Right of First Refusal.

- CPC is finalizing the purchase of a parcel on Campbell Street that will provide trailhead parking for the Highland Lake property.
- The CPC established its Strategic Annual Work Plan in January 2008 for the time period through June 2009, and is updating the plan for the next 18-month period.
- The CPA-funded Norfolk Grange historic restoration is underway after delays related to design details associated with the historic nature of the project. Estimated completion is fall 2009.
- The Norfolk Library's Schoolhouse Renovation, funded by CPA monies, should be completed in late spring.
- CPC was a member of the Community Preservation Coalition for calendar year 2008.
- Had discussions with several landowners in Norfolk, initiating the process of exploring conservation and acquisition options.

Please visit www.virtualnorfolk.org to view our meeting schedule and minutes along with downloadable forms for projects and applications.

We encourage people to get involved with the CPC and to bring us ideas of possible projects. We appreciate the support of the Town of Norfolk and look forward to continuing our efforts in 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

Community Preservation Committee

Board and Commission Appointees:

Andrea Langhauser, Chair – Planning Board
Betsy Pyne, Vice Chair– Historical Comm.
Tom Terpstra – Recreation Commission
Vacant – Housing Authority
Erin Bardanis – Conservation Commission

At large members:

Paul Terrio – Precinct 1
Kevin Hughes – Precinct 2
Cyndi Andrade – Clerk, Precinct 3
Richard Connors – Precinct 4