

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

FY'07 Annual Report

Community Preservation Committee

Members:

Paul Siegenthaler, Chairman
John Comando, Vice Chairman
Janet Bernardo
Bruce Eisenhut
Jane Howard
Sheila Pransky
Phil Robey
Ron Ruth
Cary Young

Appointed by:

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

Staff:

Patricia Carey, Staff Liaison
Nikki Witham, 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'07 Accomplishments and Activities

- The Needham Community Preservation Fund received its first state match of \$1,303,584 from the Commonwealth in October 2006, a 100% match to Needham’s surcharge. It was also announced that the next annual match would be made in October 2007 and that it would also be a 100% match.
- The Committee held a public meeting in April, 2007, to gather public input on the proposals under review for funding.
- At the May, 2007 Annual Town Meeting, the Committee recommended and Town Meeting approved the funding of four proposals:

\$ 50,000	Selectmen/Town Manager	Town Hall Feasibility Study
\$ 22,000	Park and Recreation	Preservation of Bubblers

\$ 12,000	Park and Recreation	Preservation of Fences
\$175,000	Housing Authority	High Rock Homes Redevelopment

- In addition to funding the proposals, Town Meeting also appropriated \$2,261,000 for the second round of funding for community preservation based on anticipated Fiscal Year 2008 revenues from the CPA surcharge. As required by the state legislation, funds were spent or put in reserve for Historic Resources, Community Housing, and Open Space. Remaining funds 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.
- Sadly, the Community Preservation Committee lost one of its original members in January 2007 with the unexpected death of Chairman Mary Ellen Herd.

Statistics

- The Community Preservation Fund has provided financial support to nine projects, with a total of \$734,200.

Affordable Housing total	\$499,500
Open Space total	\$125,700
Historic Preservation total	\$ 75,000
Recreation total	\$ 34,000