

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

FY'13 Annual Report

Community Preservation Committee

Members:

Mark Gluesing, Chairman
Janet Bernardo, Vice Chair
Carol Boulris
Gary Crossen
Reg Foster
Mike Retzky
Paul Siegenthaler
Sam Bass Warner
Lita Young

Appointed by:

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

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'13 Accomplishments and Activities

- In July, 2012, Governor Patrick signed changes to the Community Preservation legislation that now permits a community to use funds for recreation capital improvements on land owned by the Town. The original legislation limited the recreation funds to land purchased with CPA funds. The legislature also voted to put additional funds into the MA Community Preservation Fund from the state surplus at the end of FY' 13 if it exists.
- The Needham Community Preservation Fund received its state distribution of \$437,167 from the Commonwealth in October 2012, a 26.83% match. The percentage was slightly lower than the prior year, but the actual amount of the distribution was almost \$20,000 higher than the prior year. The Town collected \$1,629,164 through the local surcharge.

- The Committee held public hearings in October, 2012 and in March, 2013, to gather public input on the proposals under review for funding.
- At the November, 2012 Special Town Meeting, and the May, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, the Committee recommended and Town Meeting approved the funding of the following proposals:

\$ 35,000	Bay Colony Rail Trail Assoc	Rail Trail Feasibility Study
\$ 220,000	Charles River Center	South Street Group Home
\$ 445,000	Town Manager	Greene's Field Improvements
\$ 70,000	Planning/Comm Development	Community Housing Specialist
\$ 25,000	P&R/ConCom	Open Space & Recreation Plan
\$ 85,000	P&R/ConCom	Design: Reservoir ADA Trail
\$ 60,000	Park & Recreation/School Dept	Newman Preschool PG Surfacing
\$ 248,000	DPW/School Dept	Design: Newman Fields/Eastman
\$ 40,000	DPW	Design: Mills Field Improvements
\$ 8,200	Community Farm	Farm Soil Improvements

- 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 Community Housing and Open Space. The debt service for Town Hall is also paid through CPA funds, meeting the obligation for spending under Historic Resources. Remaining funds, totaling \$915,200 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 thirty nine (39) projects, with a total of \$19,813,633.

Community Housing total	\$ 1,384,500
Open Space total	\$ 1,796,400
Historic Preservation total	\$ 15,492,233
Recreation total	\$ 1,140,500