



Roxann Wedegartner  
Mayor

City of  
**GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS**

**COMMUNITY PRESERVATION  
COMMITTEE**

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**Members:**

Travis Drury (Chair)  
Garth Shaneyfelt (Vice-chair)  
Wisty Rorabacher  
John Passiglia  
Susan Worgaftik  
Yanis Chibani  
Donna DuSell  
Thomas Guerino  
Dave Chichester

**COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE (CPC)**

**Minutes of Thursday, February 23, 2023, 5:30 p.m.**

**John Zon Community Center and Remote Via Zoom**

**Members Present:**

Chair, Travis Drury (Conservation Commission)  
Donna DuSell (Recreation Commission)  
John Passiglia (Historical Commission)

Garth Shaneyfelt (at Large)  
Susan Worgaftik (at Large)  
Dave Chichester (Planning Board)

Wisty Rorabacher (at Large) Via Zoom

**Members Absent:**

Tom Guerino (Greenfield Housing)  
Yanis Chibani (at Large)

**Others Present:**

Christian LaPlante, Staff Contact  
Members of the Public

**1. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chair Travis Drury at 5:30 p.m.

**2. Roll Call:**

**3. Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Donna, seconded by Susan to approve the minutes of the February 7, 2023, CPC meeting. Approved unanimously via roll call vote. Vote = 7:0:0.

**4. Opening Remarks:** Chairman Drury explained the purpose of tonight's meeting; that is to seek feedback from the public on the fourteen project applications to be considered by the committee. With the help of a Power Point exhibit, he summarized the categories of Historic, Housing and Recreation/Open Space and the respective applications for funds submitted. There is a total of \$335,000 to be awarded. He noted that more than 300 responses had been submitted to the survey found online on the City's website. He also reviewed the schedule remaining for this year's Committee review and allocation of awards.

**5. Public Comment:** Chairman Drury opened up the meeting for public comment suggesting a 3-minute limit for each speaker. If, after all who wished to speak had spoken, anyone who wished to speak again would have that opportunity. He also reiterated that, according to the rules, dialogue with the Committee would be discouraged.

**a. Carol Letson** of Greenfield: Feels that the **CSO** development project is a fantastic opportunity for Greenfield, and she strongly supports it. Secondly, she thinks the **Historical Society** project is exciting and necessary as the documents have been held in storage and “moldering away” for a long time. Lastly, she is a bike rider, has ridden in the area targeted by the Bike project and considers the present route “hair raising.” She urges the committee to give favorable consideration to the **Bicycle** route feasibility study in addition to the other two.

**b. Richard Wedegartner** of Greenfield: Referring to the **Beacon Park Improvement** project, and with his set of bocce balls as a visual aid, he explained the rules and how the game is played. He noted that people of all ages can play, and the expansion of the bocce facilities would be a big attraction. It would bring people from surrounding areas to Greenfield for friendly regional competitions. He also indicated he supports the **pickleball** project.

**c. Joy Whitbeck** of Greenfield: Joy acknowledges that she has asked for a lot in her **Highland Park Signage** project application but realizes there is a lot to be done, and the more that people experience the forest and open spaces the more people will fall in love with the woods and find moments of peace. She is very much in favor of improving Highland Park, the signage and access to critical information to help make recreational space more user friendly, more attractive and more appealing to people.

**d. Mike Reddig** of Greenfield: Touting his **pickleball** interest, he feels that this sport is growing, is important and a multi-generational experience that reaches out to people in a life-changing way. People are physically active, and it is fun and allows people to show their athletic prowess. Through friendly competition it is an important social experience. He is convinced that, with the building of six new courts in town, they will be filled all the time. There are many involved people who show their interest by shoveling off the court, chalking additional areas and contributing money to the maintenance.

**e. Norman Hirschfield** (via Zoom) of Greenfield: Supports the **Bicycle** proposal.

**f. Todd Boynton** of Greenfield: “**Pickleball** saved my life” he claimed. He feels expanding the pickleball facilities in Greenfield could be “...the center of the community and the pride of Western Massachusetts.” It’s community building. Lots of people from all over would come to Greenfield, filling up restaurants, filling up hotels. Currently, every weekend people come from Northampton and Brattleboro and other parts of the region. The sport is for everyone – all ages and abilities. There would be many people using the courts every day. Everyone gets involved. The project would start returning the investment immediately.

**g. Dana Unaitis** of Greenfield (via Zoom): **Pickleball** is a fast-growing social activity. Many people of all ages enjoy the sport. She is in complete agreement with supporters of pickleball. A great addition to Greenfield and much needed.

**h. Keleigh BenEzra** of Greenfield: Works for CSO and Friends of the Homeless. The work that's going to be done with the **CSO** project is incredibly important in that it increases shelter capacity for the homeless and housing resources for many. Putting it in the place where the services today are already robust. The movement from the shelter to affordable housing is vital. It gives people hope. CSO is an organization that is prepared and capable of following this through. This CSO project is very important in that it increases badly needed shelter capacity and housing resources. She points out it meets one of the CPA's main goals.

**i. Mark Kennedy** from Northampton: He drives 3-4 days per week from Northampton to Greenfield to play **pickleball**. He loves it. Consistently there are 18 to 21 people playing pickleball on the existing court. It's a great group. He's a true out-of-towner and sees the expansion of the facility in Greenfield as a means of bringing many more people to Greenfield.

**j. Nevin Murray** Supports the CSO project, highlighting the many people who will benefit from it.

**k. Chris Maylo** from Greenfield (via Zoom): He talks about **pickleball** every day. Has met many people through this activity. It's very social, community building and multi-generational. He claims there are 623 people interested in pickleball on his Facebook page compared to 59 people when it was first started a year ago. People travel and plan trips around the sport and people will come to Greenfield solely because of it. Community building. Inclusive. Multi-generational. Fun.

**Closing:** There being no further comments within the room or via Zoom, Chairman Drury, with thanks to everyone who had commented, closed the public comment period at 6:08 p.m.

**Next Meetings:** March 9, 2023, 5:30 p.m. at City Hall and via Zoom, to discuss public comments and results of the feedback survey. March 23, 2023, to vote on allocation of funds.

Adjourn: Motion by Donna, seconded by Garth to adjourn at 6:10 p.m. Vote = 7:0:0.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Chichester