

**Community Preservation Committee Meeting**  
**March 10, 2021**  
**Remote Meeting**

**PRESENT:**

Chairman Peter McFarland, Selectmen-appointed representative  
Vice Chairman Patricia Griffin Starr, Housing Authority representative  
Julie Barbour-Issa, Selectmen-appointed representative  
Joseph Greeley, Selectmen-appointed representative  
John Hall, Selectmen-appointed representative  
Matt Lane, Board of Selectmen representative, acting as Parks Commission  
Joseph Sheehan, Planning Board representative  
Catherine Walsh, Conservation Commission representative

Paul Halkiotis, Director of Community Planning and Economic Development

**ABSENT:**

Toni Eosco, Historical Commission representative

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:45pm by Chairman McFarland.

**Approval of Minutes — February 10, 2021**

**MOTION** made by Patricia Griffin Starr to approve the meeting minutes of February 10, 2021. Motion seconded by Joseph Greeley.

**Result: 7-0-1 (Approved)**

**Discussion of Current Project Applications 2020-2021**

Joseph Greeley reported. Based on the results of the Special Town Meeting last month, the Trails Committee is withdrawing the Hawes Brook ADA Path application from consideration.

In consultation with Town General Manager Mazzucco, it was determined that the Landfill Observation Stand application should also be withdrawn from consideration. This is primarily due to the high probability of a future solar panel array which will be installed at the site. There is the possibility of revisiting the project following the solar array installation.

**MOTION** made by Joseph Greeley to remove the Hawes Brook ADA Path application and the Landfill Observation Stand application from consideration of the Community Preservation Committee. Motion seconded by Joseph Sheehan.

**Result: 8-0-0 (Approved)**

Joseph Greeley further reported that Holly Jones, the Town's Conservation agent, has applied for a Mass. Trails grant to fund the University Avenue trail design. The deadline was February 1. Traditionally,

recipients of the grant awards have not been announced until the end of April or beginning of May. Further, it is not known if the pandemic will delay the timeline. As discussed at last month's meeting, Mr. Greeley recommends and requests that the project application continue through the remainder of the cycle, pending a future update from the State.

**MOTION** made by Joseph Greeley to move the University Avenue trail design application to a Public Hearing. Motion seconded by Patricia Griffin Starr.

*Vote:* Peter McFarland, Chairman: Aye  
Patricia Griffin Starr, Vice Chairman: Aye  
Julie Barbour-Issa: Aye  
Toni Eosco: Absent  
Joseph Greeley: Aye  
John Hall: Aye  
Matt Lane: Aye  
Joseph Sheehan: Aye  
Catherine Walsh: Aye

**Result: 8-0-0 (Approved)**

#### *Fire Bell Removal*

Chairman McFarland indicated that he does not believe that there is enough information to pass the application along as more vetting is needed. In particular, a determination on the location for the bell once it is taken down needs to be made.

Patricia Griffin Star will contact the project applicant to clarify the destination of the bell. Paul Halkiotis suggested that, when speaking with the applicant, she indicate that a clear determination on the project's needs must be known. If that cannot be clearly shown, the Committee will likely vote not to recommend to continue.

Mr. Halkiotis further suggested a deadline of Friday, March 19 for having this information. This would allow the Committee time to review before the Public Hearing on March 24. In addition, Mr. Halkiotis is briefing Joe Collins on the project. He will be attending the public hearing as he has been appointed Temporary, Acting Assistant Town Planner.

Financial estimates have been received on necessary work. The rigger will cost \$3,500-\$4,500. Foundry work is \$12,000-\$15,000. It will cost approximately \$25,000 to remove the fire bell from the tower and onto a flatbed truck.

**MOTION** made by Patricia Griffin Starr to move the Fire Bell Removal Project to the Public Hearing. Seconded by Joseph Greeley.

*Vote:* Peter McFarland, Chairman: Aye  
Patricia Griffin Starr, Vice Chairman: Aye  
Julie Barbour-Issa: Aye  
Toni Eosco: Absent  
Joseph Greeley: Aye  
John Hall: Aye

Matt Lane: Aye  
Joseph Sheehan: Aye  
Catherine Walsh: Aye

**Result: 8-0-0 (Approved)**

#### *Interpretive Signs*

John Hall reported that he had a conversation with his contact in Chatham which completed a similar project. Much was learned from the conversation. Mr. Hall indicated that a new champion for the project is needed, as former Assistant Town Planner Patrick Deschenes was. He believes it would be advantageous to connect with Norwood's 150th Anniversary Committee.

Mr. Hall reported that different signs were completed at different times on the Chatham project. Thirteen were done as part of the town's 300th anniversary. A thirteen-member committee was setup to complete the project, including selecting the sites, compiling research, and writing the content.

**MOTION** made by Patricia Griffin Starr to table the Interpretive Signs project. Seconded by John Hall.

*Vote:* Peter McFarland, Chairman: Aye  
Patricia Griffin Starr, Vice Chairman: Aye  
Julie Barbour-Issa: Aye  
Toni Eosco: Absent  
Joseph Greeley: Aye  
John Hall: Aye  
Matt Lane: Aye  
Joseph Sheehan: Aye  
Catherine Walsh: Aye

**Result: 8-0-0 (Approved)**

#### **Public Hearing**

The public hearing will be held on March 24 at 5:30pm via GoToMeeting. Two applications will be discussed: the University Ave Trail Design and the Fire Bell Removal.

#### **CPA Business and Updates**

The Community Preservation Committee's next business meeting will be held on April 14.

#### *Ongoing Projects*

Paul Halkiotis reported on the park at the Saint Lot property. The conservation restriction has been finalized with the State and is ready to be recorded. Last week, a kickoff meeting was held with Horsley Witten, the consultants assisting with the park design. Joseph Greeley attended the meeting as a representative of the Community Preservation Committee. Public outreach meetings will be held soon to solicit input from neighborhood residents and from Town boards and committees. A complete design is anticipated for July. Following this, cost estimates will be prepared for the Community Preservation Committee and Town Meeting to request funding for the construction of the park.

A significant area of the property includes buried asphalt that was once a parking lot. Holly Jones located an aerial photo from 2004. In that photo, vegetation can be seen, but there was nothing mature. Now, mature trees have grown through the asphalt. The Town's Department of Public Works was consulted. They determined the job is too large for them to undertake. The asphalt needs to be scraped and disposed of and the area re-vegetated. Cost estimates will be drafted for this work so that the property will be a blank slate for construction.

*CPC Staff*

Paul Halkiotis reported that a candidate for the Assistant Town Planner position will be interviewed tomorrow. Close to thirty applications were received. However, a majority did not meet the minimum requirements of the position. Three applications were forwarded to Mr. Halkiotis. One candidate stood out from the rest. Mr. Halkiotis indicated that he is very hopeful and, assuming a successful interview, anticipates presenting an offer to the candidate within one week.

**Adjournment**

**MOTION** made by Joseph Sheehan to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Julie Barbour-Issa.

*Vote:* Peter McFarland, Chairman: **Approve**  
Patricia Griffin Starr, Vice Chairman: **Approve**  
Julie Barbour-Issa: **Approve**  
Toni Eosco: Absent  
Joseph Greeley: **Approve**  
John Hall: **Approve**  
Matt Lane: **Approve**  
Joseph Sheehan: **Approve**  
Catherine Walsh: **Approve**

**Result: 8-0-0 (Approved)**

The meeting adjourned at 6:38pm.

**Articles/Exhibits Used at Meeting**

- Draft meeting minutes of February 10, 2021 for the Committee's review and approval.

*Minutes respectfully submitted to the Committee by John Cianciarulo.*