

Holliston Community Preservation Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
March 24, 2008

Lower Town Hall 014  
7:30 PM

Present: Mr. Sam Tyler – CPC Chair  
Ms. Jan McDevitt – CPC Vice Chair  
Mr. Peter Rosati, Mr. Mike Pelon, Mr. Len Engle, Mr. Frank Chamberlain, Mr. George Johnson, CPC Members

Mr. Tyler opened the Public Hearing at 7:32 P.M.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Tyler presented the minutes of March 10<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Rosati made a motion to accept the minutes. Mr. Johnson seconded. Unanimous with Ms. McDevitt abstaining.

### **Vote on Unused Appropriation Transfer**

Mr. Tyler said that at Town Meeting the unused balances for selected appropriations should be allocated back to the original reserves.

**Mr. Rosati made a motion to transfer \$186,128.31 of selected appropriation balances back to their original CPA reserves. Mr. Pelon seconded the motion. Unanimous.**

### **Vote on Pump House Tower Transfer**

Mr. Chamberlain stated that the Holliston Historical Commission discussed the cost overrun with the contractor and is satisfied that the appropriate action was taken in the interest of being cost efficient. He indicated that the Historical Commission was satisfied with the completed work.

**Mr. Rosati made a motion to recommend the transfer of \$4,694.28 from the Historic Resource Reserve to the CPC Administrative Budget for the expenses associated with the Pump House tower repair. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. Unanimous.**

### **Follow-up on Andrews School Roof Repair**

Mr. Tyler expressed interest in more information being made available before the CPC members voted on the Andrews School roof repair project. Mr. Juhl said that Mark Dellicker would be able to do the repair and questioned if the monies already appropriated could be used for the repair. Mr. Engle asked whether there was enough money to do the repair and keep the units affordable. Mr. Johnson said that we could not change the vote without Town Meeting approval. Mr. Tyler read the order from that October 2006 Town Meeting vote which states: "MOVE: To appropriate \$200,000 from the Community Preservation Fund Budget Reserve for fiscal 2007 for the Andrews School Partnership for the purpose of assisting in ensuring the long-term affordability of nine of sixteen one and two-bedroom condominium units at the Andrews School

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Condominium project.” Mr. Engle asked if there was any of the \$200,000 left to fund the project. Ms. McDevitt said that as a town building, the town should be doing the maintenance. Mr. Tyler stated that he felt the requested work was within the wording of the previous appropriation and the committee members agreed.

### **Presentation of First Congregational Church**

Mr. Jeff Howard of the First Congregational Church of Holliston indicated that the church has initiated a half million dollar capital fund raising campaign. The church wants to hire an engineering firm and a historic preservation consultant to assess what would need to be done to repair and preserve the historic 1822 – 1859 building. Mr. Tyler asked if there was any thought of the church paying the \$14,000 that was being requested. Mr. Howard indicated that the church congregation was small and did not have the funds available for this project. Mr. Tyler said the challenge of this request was not the historic nature of the building, the link between the church and the early history of the town or its contribution to the character of downtown but from the fact that it is a religious structure. Mr. Howard stated that the church was a very important part of the community and that its facility hosts meetings of the Boy Scouts, AAA, Overeaters and other organizations and provides a day care and nursery school that serve community needs. Mr. Chamberlain said the report will contain an understanding of how the building was constructed and would be documented for the Holliston Historical Commission. Mr. Juhl indicated that the building has shifted up to four inches and that it is important to get the process moving.

Mr. Tyler asked if this would be the only request for CPC funds. Mr. Engle thought this might have trouble passing at town meeting because of the religious nature however, the construction for historic restoration fits with the goal of the CPA. He also said there would have to be a public education campaign. Mr. Rosati agreed the timing was unfortunate and that the CPC would have to address the church/state argument. Mr. Chamberlain said there have been other CPA projects on churches and that he would consult the Community Preservation Coalition. Mr. Howard suggested he would withdraw the proposal. Mr. Pelon stated he was disappointed and disagreed with not moving forward now. Mr. Chamberlain recommended putting the request on the warrant with the possibility of withdrawing it before Town Meeting. Mr. Johnson suggested the church and CPA split the costs evenly with the CPA funds used to match the church contribution.

**Ms. McDevitt made a motion to recommend an appropriation of \$7,000 to the First Congregational Church for the purpose of hiring an engineering firm and a historic preservation consultant to evaluate the structural, mechanical and material problems of the 1822-1859 church building. Mr. Johnson seconded. Five in favor, 1 abstain and 1 oppose.**

### **Presentation on Town Document Preservation**

Town Clerk Jackie Dellicker brought examples of the documents that have been restored and thanked the CPC for its support of this multi-year project. She said that when the documents first left Town Hall, her heart skipped a beat since it is her duty to protect them. Adding that the company who did the work was very helpful and efficient, she felt very comfortable with having them continue with Phase II. Ms. Dellicker is researching the dehumidifier purchase now.

**CPC Domain Renewal**

Mr. Tyler said that the CPC Domain needed to be renewed. Mr. Rosati indicated that he had paid the fee the last two years. The bill from Network Solutions is \$89.95. Mr. Tyler requested a receipt be submitted.

**Mr. Chamberlain made a motion to reimburse Mr. Rosati \$89.95 for the CPC Domain Renewal. Mr. Pelon seconded. 6 in favor – Mr. Rosati abstained.**

**New Business**

Mr. Tyler explained that based on the experience of invoice requests for payment that have been submitted over the past year, he has revised the CPC website instructions on submitting invoices and modified the invoice cover form to improve initial compliance with information required by the Town Accountant for approval of payment.

**Mr. Johnson made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Engle seconded. Unanimous. 10:00 P.M.**