

Town of Lenox  
Community Preservation Committee

Meeting Minutes

November 14, 2022

In-person/Zoom

**In-person:** Tom Delasco (Chair, Planning Board), Mark Smith (Conservation Commission), Kim Graham (Lenox Housing Authority), Shannon O'Brien (Community Center), Becky Cushing Gop (Mass Audubon), Shawn Leary Considine (East Dugway 40 Acre acquisition)

**Remote:** Neal Maxymillian (Selectboard), Frederick Keator (At Large), Gwen Miller (staff)

**1. Approval of Minutes: 8/8/22**

The minutes for August 8<sup>th</sup> were approved with edits from Mark Smith.

**2. Special cycle application schedule update**

Neal Maxymillian suggested the group defer the discussion of new FY24 applications until after the December 8<sup>th</sup> Special Town Meeting, suggesting there was some meeting and explanation preparation the group could do. He went over the articles on the draft Special Town Meeting warrant. The group went through the warrant articles for the Mass. Audubon Society request for \$150,000 toward the All Persons Trail and \$360,000 toward the land acquisition north of East Dugway Road. The group agreed the \$150,000 for the MAS request should come from Open Space, and that the East Dugway Road purchase would be funded from both Open Space (\$160,000) and Unrestricted (\$200,000). There was discussion regarding Article 9 for the East Dugway acquisition. Neal also explained that Article 3 on the warrant would return funds used to purchase the Sawmill site for housing purposes, as the property is going to be used for a public safety complex. Neal asked if the money had to go back to a specific bucket, or if it could go to CPC and then be redistributed. Frederick Keator wanted to ask the Community Preservation Coalition—if the money needed to go back to the specific bucket, and if the interest would go toward unrestricted. He thought the Committee could then decide how to do it. He suggested Article 3 stay silent on which funding sleeve it goes back to. Neal explained he thought this would be pertinent in response to the Affordable Housing Trust's request for FY24, as they are asking for funds to support housing preservation and creation activities. Frederick and Neal agreed that they would figure out where the funds would go specifically, and they would

**3. Fiscal Year 2024 Project Applications:**

Affordable Housing Trust application and letter of support--\$150,000 to support creation, preservation of community housing.

The Mount--\$110,000 to support its purchase of the farmhouse at Edith Wharton Park.

Lenox Library application, document image, letters of support and price quote for document preservation--\$3,132 preserve the Town of Lenox's Non-Consumption Agreement, a document signed on July 14, 1774.

The group agreed the applications for FY24 were consistent with CPC eligibility; they agreed to defer review and discussion of the specific applications until after the December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Special Town Meeting.

Before adjourning, Shawn Leary Considine mentioned she had some different and specific language for the East Dugway Road acquisition. Tom suggested she send the language to Gwen.

Neal also asked who would be responsible for improvements to the East Dugway property—if it would be the Conservation Commission. There was discussion as to how CPC funds could be used for future improvements for access, and there was discussion about who might do the work, a group like BNRC or the Lenox Land Trust.