



## Community Preservation Committee

550 Hanover Street  
Hanover, MA 02339

### Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 3, 2024 – 7:00 pm

*This meeting was held via Zoom and in-person.*

#### Committee Members Present

William Scarpelli, Chairman  
Mary Dunn  
Judy Grecco  
Jonathan Chu  
Susan Setterland (via Zoom)

#### Not Present

Maryann Brugnoli  
Mike Jorgensen  
Brian McLoone

#### Other Attendees:

Ann Lee  
Steve Louko

Joe Colangelo  
Stephen O'Neill

#### Opening

Chairman William Scarpelli opened the meeting at 7:11 pm.

#### Review Rail Trail – Ellis Connection Application.

The Committee met with Joe Colangelo (Town Manager) on the Rail Trail – Ellis Connection application. Mr. Colangelo reported this application for CPA funds is for a connector trail from Ellis Field to the end of the rail trail which terminates just before the Drinkwater railroad bridge. The idea is that having the path at the current termination point of the rail trail will be used to park and make that the beginning of their trek, whether it's by foot or bicycle, or other means to utilize all the way to Abington. \$250,000 was appropriated at a prior Town Meeting, \$230,000 of that remains because the majority of the work was done through a Grant. The article for the \$250,000 was narrowly written and so it doesn't allow the use of the monies to extend the trail past where it was on the rail to make this connection. The \$500,000 on the application is a healthy overestimate. What the actual cost of engineering and construction will be for the spur from where the trail ends currently to Ellis. Until the engineering is done we won't know what the cost is. This will likely not be solely a paved connection it will likely be a boardwalk and some other materials that would have to be used to traverse the wetlands. The Committee discussed the impact on ADA accessibility and the materials that would be used on the project and if Grants are available. Mr. Colangelo noted he'll have more information for the public hearing.

Steve Louko offered the following; it's pretty clear that it'll be difficult to pave it being so close to the riverfront area. Even though it is a walking path, it really isn't considered previously disturbed. He noted that the Conservation Agent Sandy MacFarlane recommended doing something similar to what Norwell did and elevate the boardwalk so it goes right through the wetlands. The boardwalk in Norwell is handicap accessible; it is about 8 or 10 feet wide and has railings. Ms. MacFarlane also mentioned the difference in elevation from the back side of Ellis Field to the low, wet area and recommended the boardwalk just gradually increase in elevation to meet that grade at Ellis Field so it would be higher off the ground as it approaches that that wet area.

**Stetson House Interior Redesign Project.**

The Committee met with Stephen O'Neill, Executive Director Hanover Historical Society on this application. Mr. O'Neill explained this application is requesting \$9,000 to repair, restore, improve and reinterpret the first-floor interior space of the Stetson House. The project will involve inspection of the downstairs, repair work where necessary, painting of interior spaces, and cleaning of the windows, hearth, and fireplaces. The Committee noted their support of the ideas presented.

**Cobbler's Shop Restoration.**

The Committee met with Stephen O'Neill, Executive Director Hanover Historical Society on this application. Mr. O'Neill explained this application is requesting \$5,000 to restore, upgrade and reinterpret the 1850's Cobbler Shop on the Stetson House grounds. The shop was moved to the grounds in 1992 (from Washington Street) and after being moved it is in need of attention. The project requires restoration carpentry, cleaning, and upgrade of the electrical wiring for better lighting.

**Digital Collections Preservation.**

The Committee met with Stephen O'Neill, Executive Director Hanover Historical Society on this application. Mr. O'Neill explained this application is requesting \$10,000 to purchase the equipment for creating a digital collections preservation project. This will enable the Historical Society and volunteers to scan and digitize manuscripts, photographs, scrapbooks, posters, and other library and archival materials in the collections. Mr. O'Neill will enlist volunteers and/or interns to do the scanning. The scanner will be housed at the Senior Center. The Committee noted once the items are scanned in they would be available on-line and it will make it easier to find information through a search.

The Public Hearing is scheduled for 1-23-24; the articles for the Warrant will be voted at this meeting.

**Adjournment**

The meeting ended and adjourned at 8:16 pm.

*Respectfully submitted,*  
*Ann Lee*