



Community Preservation Committee

550 Hanover Street
Hanover, MA 02339

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 17, 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

Victor Diniak

Matthew Heins

Opening

Chairman William Scarpelli opened the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

Rail Trail – Ellis Connection.

Chairman Scarpelli noted he met with the Advisory Committee and their recommendation for this Article is for it to be reduced from \$250,000 to \$15,000. The Advisory committee is generally in favor of the project for the Rail Trail spur to Ellis Field. They voted to support the \$15,000 appropriation for this year which covers the engineering and permitting costs for the project. This approach allows us to know with more certainty what the cost of the boardwalk will be. The Committee also discussed it not being a great year for a big-ticket item with the pending override.

Chairman Scarpelli noted he agreed with the Advisory Committee's position and thinks it's good for our Committee as well as good for the Town and there is no problem with a delay. The Committee discussed the cost of engineering and estimates it to be around \$6,000. or \$7,000. but now that will be another year out to get the actual amount and get a set of drawings to present to Town Meeting so that we can show what it would look like and what we're spending money on. Also, reach out to Norwell and see what they paid for their boardwalk. The Committee agreed that we could go with the \$15,000 for this Article at this Town Meeting and hopefully get a solid number for next year.

The Committee voted to support the Advisory Committee's amendment to appropriate \$15,000 from CPA funds for the costs associated with permitting/engineering of the trail from a point roughly terminus of the rail trail over the Drinkwater River to the ending point on the Ellis Field. Roll Call

Vote: William Scarpelli, aye; Mary Dunn, aye; Judy Grecco, aye; Jonathan Chu, aye; and Susan Setterland, aye.

B. Everett Hall Project

Victor Diniak, DPW Director & Matthew Heins, Town Planner were present for this discussion. Chairman Scarpelli provided a review of how the Committee initiated this project with the thought of adding two bocce courts, bathroom and storage facilities, maybe a coffee shop and a pavilion at B. Everett Hall Field. Upon further discussion the Committee agreed to have a study done and the Town enlisted the services of the Conway School who provided a report that was released last summer.

There are three programs that actively make use of the area: Spring/Summer baseball; Fall football; and the Hanover Day celebration. The Committee discussed the option of Forge Pond Park and Hanover Crossing for the Hanover Day celebration. The Committee noted that B. Everett Hall Field is more appropriate place to keep Hanover Day for the feasibility, traffic control, lighting, etc. The Committee noted parking is an issue at Forge Pond Park and also noted concern for the grounds with the volume of people and the activities of Hanover Day.

Victor Diniak noted that there's some nice features in the Conway presentation and further noted:

- The lack of available water for sustaining vegetation is not helpful. The town just doesn't have water irrigation there. Over the years, there have been efforts to try to sink wells to irrigate, and they've all failed the last attempt was a gallon a minute at 600 feet.
- One lessons of Forge Pond was that we built what we thought was enough parking for our facility and we found people don't want to park in parking lots they want to park closer to their activity. I think that's what stuck out of this is that they've moved the parking away from where a lot of the things are happening.
- You should settle on what you're really trying to do and then once you settle on what you're trying to achieve then you start talking about phasing the project(s).
- The area in the back where the Conway proposal locates the meadow will probably turn into just a weedy area where the vegetation is not going to survive; nature is going to reclaim itself. The walking trails everywhere through there is a nice feature.
- The school spaces are also big open spaces that are probably underutilized. The back of the Middle School and even the whole High School/Cedar complex are things that might be able to meet some of these one-time needs.
- The back corner of B. Everett Hall Field use to be two little fields but one wants to play there because the ground is a little wavy because when they built the field they buried all the stumps there. DPW has filled in the rut's multiple times.

The Committee scheduled the next meeting for May 14th at 7:00 p.m. and requested that members of the Cultural Council: Chris Haradin and Paul Nimeskern and Adam Hill from Parks and Recreation and HYAA be scheduled to discuss the activities at B. Everett Hall for the meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting ended and adjourned at 8:30 pm.

*Respectfully submitted,
Ann Lee*