



## COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

### Annual Town Report 2021

The Community Preservation Act (CPA) is a mechanism for cities and towns to raise capital for specific projects that improve the quality of life for all residents. With matching funds from the state, the money raised can be used for land conservation, historic preservation projects, affordable housing development, and active recreational uses. Hubbardston passed the CPA in November 2006. Funds are administered through a committee (CPC) comprised of representatives from the three areas of allowed use, as well as at-large members. Information and guidelines, as well as an application form for CPA funds can be found on the town web site. The CPC reviews all applications and those that meet the guidelines of the CPA coupled with a fiduciary review of CPA income and obligations are recommended to the Selectboard to be voted on by Town Meeting.

Six CPA articles were approved at the **June 1, 2021 ATM**: two funding interior and exterior library repair, one funding library roof debt for FY2022 (3 of 5), one supporting the conservation of Fieldstone Farm, an article supplying building materials for the Habitat for Humanity Project North Central Massachusetts and the last for appropriating the estimated FY2022 annual local CPA revenue as required by law.

Two CPA articles were approved at the **October 19, 2021 STM**: one funding the cost of replacing the exterior siding of the historic Evangelical Church building and the other funding Rainbow Playground debt obligation FY2022, (1 of 5).

#### **CPA revenue totals FY2021** (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021):

\$68,721.23 Surcharge + \$18,906.00 State match + \$12,253.83 Interest = \$99,881.06

These monies accrue annually and enable the citizens of Hubbardston to preserve our past, enrich our present, and provide means to conserve open space for future generations.

#### **Projects update:**

CPA funds were utilized in the restoration project of the slate roof of the Jonas Clark Library. This debt obligation is prioritized and there are two payments remaining to retire this note in FY2024. The library trustees are mindful of the importance of preserving our town's "architectural gem" and the necessity of continued stewardship of this landmark building – both interior and exterior.

The construction of the Rainbow Playground at Curtis Field was completed over the summer and opened with a community celebration organized by Sanda Barry, Parks and Recreation Chair. This festivity included ice cream treats compliments of Fidelity Bank. The portable ice rink, previously purchased with CPA funds, was assembled again to provide for winter recreation at Curtis Field.

In October Alice Livdahl, Planning Board Chair, hosted a Groundbreaking Ceremony at the future site of the Habitat for Humanity home on Ragged Hill Road which is scheduled for completion the summer of 2022. CPA monies are facilitating this worthwhile project and contribute to the town's mandated target of 10% affordable housing.

An initiative to save Fieldstone Farm was supported by the citizens of Hubbardston. This collaboration with East Quabbin Land Trust, the Department of Conservation and Recreation and the Hubbardston Open Space Committee permanently conserved 245 acres of field and forest in the eastern corner of town.

We thank outgoing CPC member Stephanie Frend and appreciate her service to our community.

Respectfully submitted,

Sanda Barry, Chair - Parks Commission  
Alice Livdahl - Planning Board, Housing  
Kayla Larson - Conservation Commission

Susan Worth - Open Space Committee  
Dolores Ordway - Member at-large  
Danielle Arakelian - Member at-large