



COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Annual Town Report 2022

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 citizens voted to participate in 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 specific 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.

Four CPA articles were approved at the **June 7, 2022 ATM**: two fulfilled debt obligations - one for the library roof project (4th of 5 payments) and the other the Rainbow Playground (2nd of 5 payments). Another article supplied monies for building materials for completion of the Habitat for Humanity Project, and the last appropriated the FY2023 estimated annual local CPA revenue as required by law.

CPA Fund Report FY2022 net revenue from the 1.5% property tax surcharge was \$74,470.65.

$\$74,470.65 + \text{state match of } \$30,130 = \$104,600.65$, deduct - \$11,480.11 investment loss = net \$93,120.54

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 used to finance the Jonas Clark Library slate roof restoration project. There is one payment 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 recently rehabilitated Rainbow Playground provides safe and convenient outdoor recreation for our children. This project was financed with CPA funds and the note will be retired in FY2026.

On June 24, Alice Livdahl, Planning Board Chair, hosted a Dedication Ceremony for the recently completed Habitat for Humanity house on Ragged Hill Road. CPA monies helped facilitate this worthwhile project and this new home contributes toward the town's mandated target of 10% affordable housing. Also, CPA funds approved at the STM of 2021 provided financial support to completely replace the worn exterior siding of the iconic "purple door" Congregational Evangelical Church. The long-awaited transformation of this circa 1827 meetinghouse took place during September and demonstrates Hubbardston's commitment to preserving our colonial heritage. This restored focal point on Main Street in the north village demonstrates the pride we share in our town history.

We thank outgoing CPC members Alice Livdahl and Kayla Larson for their service to our town and welcome Francois Steiger and Mary Varteresian as new members of the Hubbardston Community Preservation Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Sanda Barry, Chair - Parks Commission
Danielle Arakelian - Housing Committee
Dolores Ordway - Historic Commission
Susan Worth - Open Space Committee