



**Town of Bridgewater**  
**Community Preservation Committee**  
**2/25/26**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**A. Call to Order at 6:41**

Members in attendance: Gina Guasconi, Carlton Hunt, Maureen Minasian, Bill Smith, Patrick Driscoll, David Moore, Josh McGraw (CPC Admin)

**B. Chair's Announcements**

No announcements.

**C. Public Comment -none**

**D. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

**a) January 28, 2026 Meeting Minutes**

The meeting minutes will be voted at the next meeting.

**E. Review of Financial Reports**

**a) January 31, 2026**

The committee reviewed the financial reports as of January 31, 2026. The tax surcharge collected as of this report is approximately 84% of the amount budgeted for the fiscal year. A question has been asked of the Finance Department about a new revenue line, TRFR Special Revenue Fund, added in the amount of \$73,595, with no reply as of yet. Earnings on investment are above \$100k. Available funds not encumbered are approximately \$3.2m. The Edson Book project has been closed and the funds returned to the category they were taken from.

**F. Old Business**

**a) Applications Received**

**1) Town River Landing**

There are no updates for Town River Landing. Project application submitted by the Fire for Effect Foundation. The chair has sent correspondence to the applicant requesting confirmation on their application status. At the January CPC meeting, the applicant indicated he may withdraw the application.

**b) Eligibility Forms Received: None**

**c) Project Updates - In Process**

**1) First Parish Unitarian Church Windows**

Bill Smith noted that Phase 1 was complete and work on Phase 2 has been suspended until warmer weather.

**2) Hanson's Farm**

There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony scheduled for April 13. Josh McGraw is coordinating the event. Due to the weather, not much has been done on the trails,

**3) Stiles and Hart Improvements**

The CPC admin will be meeting with the Town Manager to discuss the project moving forward. The meeting is being rescheduled due to the snow storm. The admin will look into surveying the southern part of the park. Carlton will submit a scope to Josh, The Chair noted that changes should be made to the original project scope if the project goes back out to bid.

**4) Hemlock Drive Windows Replacement**

No update for the committee. Gina and Carlton did a walk through and reported the windows look great.

**5) Parthenon Frieze**

The additional funding to cover the shortage due to installation costs and the storyboard is before the Town Council. Josh will help to coordinate a ribbon cutting ceremony and publicity.

**6) Town House Interior - Historical Architect Interior Assessment**

An update will be provided to the committee after the Josh has met with the Town Manager.

**7) Multi-functional Fields (Phase 1 - Engineering)**

Josh will be following up with the Parks and Recreation Superintendent on the RFQ status.

**8) Cemetery Assessment**

A quote was received which is much higher than anticipated, Carlton will call a meeting with Gina, Bill, and David to determine the next step, possibly lessen the scope.

**d) Project Updates - Completed Projects**

**1) Broad Street Properties**

No updates for the committee at this time. Carlton noted that he will follow up with Wildlands Trust since they have not been in contact on the Conservation Restriction. The questions they had asked of the Town are still unanswered.

**2) Summer Street (Mobil Station)**

No updates for the committee at this time.

**e) Potential Projects**

**1) Jenny Leonard Park**

This depends on the acceptance of property from Oldfield Estates.

**2) Basketball Court - Scotland Field**

No updates for the committee at this time.

**3) Restoration of Fire Department's Ousamequin Hand Pump Truck and Historical Pictures**

David Moore reported that the Historical Commission has seen the pump and felt that it isn't in tough shape, adding that the Fire Department has done a great job of preserving it. He sent an email to Glen asking for clarification of extent of the renovation, the original color, and where it would best be displayed for the public. Carlton noted that the Fire Department is in the process of finding the best location and that pictures are being sent to a restoration company in Pennsylvania for their thoughts.

**4) Playground Accessibility**

The Disability Commission was postponed, however, the Parks and Recreation Commission will be discussing the project at their 3/2/26 meeting.

**5) Town House - Match to Multicultural Grant**

The Town is waiting to find out if the grant for the applied for has been awarded. The grant would assess electrical, mechanical and public safety issues. If the grant is received, the Town will most likely ask for CPC funding to fund the required match and possibly for a project manager.

**6) Study for Recreational Land Usage at Legion and Scotland Fields**

Grants will be looking into for potential usage by the Parks and Recreation Commission.

**f) Application and Eligibility Form Templates —**

Josh demonstrated the revised eligibility form that will be hosted on the Town's website. The revision has addressed issues of the current form such as word wrap and attachments. In addition, the form will be completed and submitted online. The committee will review the updated application and eligibility forms at the March meeting.

**g) Admin Code Change - CPC Membership**

The Order to change the Affordable Housing Trust position to a second at-large position is being presented to Town Council. The change will help with determining a quorum through the addition of a citizen-at-large seat.

**G. New Business**

**a) Potential New Projects**

**1) Track at Legion Field**

The Parks and Recreation Commission will be discussing the usage of the track and possibly replacing the track material through renovations.

**2) Library Renovations**

The library may consider restoration work with the help of CPC funding. The building is over 50 years old and is need of restoration work.

**3) Senior Center Walking Path**

Carlton reported that he is in talks with the Senior Center Director who is interested in creating a walking path at the center incorporating stations with seating and exercise throughout the path. Gina was involved with plans for a similar project a few years ago. Possibly data from then can be useful in the new plan.

#### **4. Exercise Pad**

A member of the Town Manager's Office had presented a plan to the Parks and Recreation Department at their February 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting for an exercise pad to be located next to the pickle ball courts. A similar pad is located at BSU. If approved, the Town could possibly be asking for CPA funding.

### **H. Committee Liaison Reports**

#### **Historical Commission -**

David Moore

The commission will be joining the Open Space Committee to discuss the Titicut Site. Special Collections at the University Library has obtained the original burial records for the South Parish Cemetery (aka First Cemetery) and have digitized the pages.

#### **Open Space Committee – Maureen Minasian**

There is a survey being worked on for the Open Space Update Plan that is expected to be completed and distributed at the end of the February. The videos of Titicut and Tuckerwood Parks are completed and pending posting on the Town's website. Maureen thanked Jeff Fowler and Al Lacerda of BTV for their assistance with the filming.

#### **Planning Board – Pat Driscoll**

No updates for the committee.

#### **Historic District Commission – Bill Smith**

Bill spoke on the Town Revitalization Ad Hoc committee of which he's a member. David Moore noted that he has asked to be on that committee. The focus is on the conditions of the buildings in the center.

#### **Conservation Commission – Gina Guasconi**

The chair informed the CPC that Harry Bailey is reportedly moving out of town which will cause a vacancy on the CPC. She will reach out to the commission to appoint a new member.

### **I. Upcoming Events**

#### **CPC Presentation**

- a. The CPC will be presenting to the Town Council this Spring. CPC members are encouraged to attend.
- b. Hanson Farm ceremony – April 13<sup>th</sup>.
- c. Ceremony for the frieze – tbd.

### **J. Public Comment**

### **K. Next Meeting Date**

March 25th at 6:30pm.

### **L. Adjournment of Meeting**

William Smith motioned to adjourn at 7:59PM which was duly seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Josh McGraw and Gina Guasconi.