

Community Preservation Committee
August 4, 2021

Present: Rena Richard, Chair – Upton Housing Authority
Paul Carey, Vice-Chair – Planning Board
Chris Scott – Conservation Commission
Richard Gazorian – Recreation Commission
Joan Scribner – Selectmen's Appointee
Mike Penko - Open Space Committee
Richard Desjardins – Selectmen's Appointee
Russell Wood – Historical Commission

Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m.

1. Prior meeting minutes reviewed and approved unanimously.
2. Review of financials.
3. Presentation by Russ Wood of the Maplewood Cemetery, a privately owned cemetery, and Edward Phillips of the Upton Cemetery Commission. In discussions with Upton Cemetery Commission regarding taking over Maplewood by gift. The Town has already been doing some needed maintenance. Looking to restore stone wall along Maple Avenue. Estimate the wall dates to 1884 or earlier. First burial on property was 1863.

Received four bids to re-point the wall and replace missing/fallen stones.

Quotes varied by the percentage of the wall the masons thought needed to be restored. The wall likely hasn't been touched since 1930's-1940's. They expect the Town to take ownership by January 1, 2022. Lakeview Cemetery (Town owned) will be full in approximately 15 to 20 years. This would give the Town 50 years more room.

Ms. Richard stated that she reviewed the Community Preservation Coalition website and similar projects have been funded by CPC Funds.

Discussion regarding the proposal and process for Town approval.

Moved to set public hearing for October 6 at 7:30 p.m. Approved unanimously.

Moved to submit a placeholder warrant for \$50,000. Approved unanimously.

Ms. Richard will advertise the hearing.

4. Discussion with Mr. Phillips regarding upcoming cemetery projects and whether they could qualify for CPC funding.

5. Mike Penko discussed a possible warrant article to fund a baseline report of conservation restrictions in Town. The report documents existing conditions on property, history, and photo documentation.

Mr. Carey questioned whether the proposed project fit within CPA allowed uses – to acquire, create, preserve or rehabilitate open space.

Ms. Richard will pose the question to the Coalition.

Adjourned at 8:40 p.m.