

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE REPORT FY17

THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT, MGL CHAPTER 44B (CPA), IS LEGISLATION WHICH ALLOWS CITIES AND TOWNS IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS TO ADOPT A PROPERTY TAX SURCHARGE WITH SURCHARGE REVENUES PLUS MATCHING FUNDS FROM THE STATE TO BE ALLOCATED FOR THE “ACQUISITION, CREATION AND PRESERVATION OF OPEN SPACE, THE ACQUISITION, CREATION AND PRESERVATION OF HISTORIC STRUCTURES AND LANDSCAPES AND THE CREATION AND PRESERVATION OF COMMUNITY HOUSING.”¹

In 2002, Wareham enacted the Community Preservation Act (CPA) approving a 3% real estate tax surcharge (with initial \$100,000 property value exclusion) which qualifies the Town to receive state funds from the Commonwealth each year. The state funds are generated by recording fees at the Registrar of Deeds. To date the Town of Wareham has received \$4,507,775 of these funds.

In FY17, the Town of Wareham collected \$766,494 in CPA funds and received \$177,470 from the state. With funds unspent from prior year, Community Preservation Commission (CPC) had a balance of \$3,054,120 to support approved projects. At both the Fall 2016 and Spring 2017 Town Meetings, the voters approved open space, recreation, affordable housing and historic preservation grants for a total of \$1,284,027.

Following is the financial report for FY17:

FY17 REVENUE

3% TAX SURCHARGE	701,767	
STATE MATCH FUND	177,470	
INTEREST EARNED	64,727	
UNALLOCATED PRIOR YEAR	1,366,896	
OPEN SPACE RESERVE	136,400	
AFFORDABLE HOUSING RESERVE	509,203	
HISTORIC PRESERVATION RESERVE	97,657	
TOTAL REVENUE		3,054,120

FY17 GRANTS

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH WINDOWS	60,000
GREAT NECK UNION CHAPEL	55,350
ONSET BATH HOUSE	215,000
LOPES ENGINEERING	75,000
FATHER BILL/WEWEANTIC	635,000
WESTFIELD SOFTBALL BLEACHERS	13,177

LUKEY PARK	175,000	
SCHOOL CONCESSION STAND	55,500	
TOTAL GRANTS		1,284,027

FY17 CPA FUND BALANCE		
BALANCE UNALLOCATED	938,183	
OPEN SPACE RESERVE	141,400	
AFFORDABLE HOUSING RESERVE	589,203	
HISTORIC PRESERVATION RESERVE	62,307	
ADMIN RESERVE	39,000	
TOTAL FUND BALANCE		1,770,093

Community Preservation Committee

George Barrett – Planning Board

Open – Historic Commission

Brian Litchfield – Co-chair, Open Space Committee

William Lockwood – Housing Authority

Sandra Slavin – Co-chair, Treasurer, Conservation Commission

Sherbie Worthen – Clerk, at-large member