

Minutes CPA Com Dec, 5 2005.
4:30 Pm to 6PM

Present: Ann Borton, Janet Chayes, Martha Conant, Malcolm Corse, Walter Goodridge, Jack Lochhead.

We reviewed Walter's draft of the CPA Funds Application form. We agreed to email Walter suggested changes before our next meeting (Dec. 19).

Janet asked about adding a section indicating our priorities and overall goals. She referred to page 17 of the town of Acton's Guidelines as an example.

Walter also mention a similar section in the town of Situate's Guidelines.

Jack suggested we might refer to the Vision Statement from the Community Development Plan. and quoted "important to protect farmland from being used for housing."

He then diverted the discussion by raising a point made previously by Ron Sweet. If we intend to keep farm fields as fields how do we keep them open if they have no economic value? Janet thought it might be possible to raise private funds for that purpose or enlist volunteer labor.

Martha indicated that the garden club might be able to help in some situations. It was agreed that this issue should be addressed in conjunction with any proposal to buy open land.

Janet pointed out the distinction between open space and open space recreation. The former is one of the essential 10% minimum requirements. The latter does not fall within any of the minimums.

A question was raised concerning the possible multiple uses of land purchased under CPA. If land is bought as open space can it later be used for low cost housing? Could it later be used for some purpose not under CPA?

Jack reviewed the status of the Rose property. He will ask Greg for the National Heritage finding. In particular we need to determine whether that land could be used to build a home for seniors.

Our next meeting will be Dec 19 at 4:30 PM.

We will also meet on Jan 2 at 4:30 PM with a representative from the local housing authority. Prospective members of the Conway Senior Housing Committee are invited.