



Community Preservation Committee  
365 Boston Road Billerica, MA 01821  
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Travis Brown, *Chair*

Joe Fiumara-*Vice Chair*  
James O'Donnell  
Matthew Battcock

Diane DePaso  
John Speidel

John Speidel-*Treasurer*  
Kelley Sardina  
Phil Newfell

**CPC Public Meeting Minutes**  
**January 9, 2025 @ 6:00 P.M.**  
**Held via remote Zoom**

Members Present	Present
Travis Brown	Y
Jim O'Donnell	N
Diane DePaso	Y
Kelley Sardina	Y
Joe Fiumara	Y
Matthew Battcock	N
John Speidel	Y
Phil Newfell	Y
John Griffin	Y

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2025 AUG 14 P 12:04  
TOWN CLERK  
BILLERICA

**Attendees:**

Jane Merrill – Interim Senior Planner  
Minutes Prepared by Jane Merrill

## REVIEW BOCCE COURT APPLICATION

The applicant is seeking \$5,000 for materials to restore 2 bocce courts. Materials include pressure treated wood that will last longer, stone dust to be laid out at the base of the courts to prevent weeds and tarps for each court to protect from weeds growing when not in use. The Sons of Italy will provide the labor, and their timeframe is to begin in July.

The Committee advised the applicant to make sure they are not near or within any sensitive areas/buffer zone and it will be reviewed by the Conservation & Recreation Depts.

The courts were built approximately 10 yrs. ago by a private entity. Sheds were also built for equipment storage for maintenance of the courts. The Sons of Italy maintains them and the

Recreation Dept. reserves the facilities. There is a fee schedule for use of the fields since the Parks Dept. assumed the responsibility of maintaining the fields. Approximately 5 yrs. ago, the youth groups maintained the fields at their own expense, but they now pay a fee as they no longer maintain the fields. There is no fee for use of bocce courts

**Motion:** To accept the Bocce Court application.  
**Moved:** Joe Fiumara  
**Seconded:** Diane DePaso  
**Vote:** 6-1 with member Phil Newfell voting no

## REVIEW MIDDLESEX EQUESTRIAN APPLICATION

Anthony Marmiani presented the project to the Board. The objective is to get the arena back to its working condition to run horse shows. Prior to Covid, they ran 6/7 shows a year and clinics. Since Covid they were not able to run any shows due to a lack of income. They currently have a fully active bank of \$2,500 to \$3,000 to keep rolling over to run the shows.

A large tree fell on the power line and consequently, they had to get the tree removed and reestablish the electrical service and get a generator. They received approval for the connection from the Water Dept., the Select Board and Town Manager's office approximately 15 yrs. ago. The post and rail fence needs to be replaced due to weather conditions and age and paint to cover the entry booth with new paint. It is noted they received approval from the Engineering Dept. to remove parts of the existing guardrail due to restrictions on parking and the entrance and exit. They are requesting \$3,775.00 to fund these upgrades. It was confirmed that this organization is non-profit. It is noted that the applicant needs to go through the permitting process with the Conservation & Board of Health Depts and is not exempt from following guidelines and regulations and is contingent based upon those approvals and permits.

**Motion:** To accept the application contingent upon town approvals/permits and must be submitted with the application.  
**Moved:** Joe Fiumara  
**Seconded:** Kelley Sardina  
**Vote:** 6-1 with member Phil Newfell voting no.

## REVIEW VVP DISC GOLF MITIGATION APPLICATION

Mike Parker presented the disc golf/conservation mitigation application and explained they are trying to make good on old issues of the original build and has met with Isabel Tourkantonis, Conservation Director and the Asst. Recreation Director and received approval to move forward with the application to get funding for the bridge rebuilding over sensitive areas. The wetlands expanded and whole new bridges need to be built. They are requesting \$7000 for 2 new bridges. As they are in sensitive areas, the discs will not be allowed in that area. Additional signage will

be included and seed mix to regrow the natural plants and forest so the ground can suck the water up as it's supposed to.

The bridges were originally built by the Recreation Dept. and since then, volunteers have taken over stewardship. The Recreation Dept. does not maintain this area.

**Motion:** To accept the mitigation application  
**Moved:** Joe Fiumara  
**Vote:** Diane DePaso  
**Vote:** 7-0. All in favor.

## REVIEW CONSERVATION FUND APPLICATION

Clancy Main, Town Manager, presented this request and explained that the Town is trying to set up a Conservation Trust Fund which allocates funds from the CPC to the Conservation Commission to allocate at a later date instead of waiting for Town Meeting and the annual budget process. This would allow \$10,000 to go to the Conservation Commission which can be voted on later to work on things in the future. Some examples of this would be for environmental assessments, appraisals, title and deed searches, brochures and maps. Conservation land that has been encroached upon by residents and commercial developers, the funds would allow for land assessments to survey the land boundaries when the Town needs it. It would also provide available funds for potential purchases to acquire more open space for the Town. It is noted that CPC funds cannot be used for brochures and maps.

Clancy has researched this with other towns who have implemented this type of funding and noted the Select Board has a land bank policy and supports this endeavor as well as the Open Space Committee.

**Motion:** To accept the Conservation Fund application.  
**Moved:** Joseph Fiumara  
**Seconded:** Diane DePaso  
**Vote:** 8-0. All in favor

## OTHER BUSINESS

- Minutes – August 8, 2024

**Motion:** To accept August 8, 2024 minutes as presented.  
**Moved:** Joe Fiumara  
**Seconded:** John Griffin  
**Vote:** 7-0 with John Griffin abstaining.

- Minutes – October 9, 2024

**Motion:** To accept October 9, 2024 minutes are presented.  
**Moved:** Joe Fiumara  
**Seconded:** Kelley Sardina  
**Vote:** 7-0 with John Griffin abstaining.

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## Adjournment

**Motion:** To adjourn the meeting  
**Moved:** Joe Fiumara  
**Seconded:** Diane DePaso  
**Vote:** 8-0. All in favor.