



# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS NEWTON

PO Box 610207 Newton, MA 02461 [www.lwvnewton.org](http://www.lwvnewton.org)  
617-383-4598 Email: [info@lwvnewton.org](mailto:info@lwvnewton.org)

December 11, 2018

Dear Members of the Community Preservation Commission:

## Board of Directors

### President

Susan Flicop

### Vice Presidents

Lisa Mirabile

### Clerk

Theresa Fitzpatrick

### Treasurer

Andrea Kozinetz

### Directors

Pia Bertelli  
Alicia Bowman  
Bonnie Carter  
Alice Donisi-Feehan  
Frieda Dweck  
Ellen Grody  
Marcia Johnson  
Lois Levin  
Linda Morrison  
Sharyn Roberts

The League of Women Voters of Newton (LWVN) has reviewed the two applications before you. Below are our comments and recommendations.

### Newton Conservators, \$30,000

Our recommendation is to approve this application to cover the additional costs related to conservation restrictions for properties purchased with CPA funding. We also recommend that this additional cost be added in to any future application to purchase conservation land.

### Allen House, \$600,000

In the interest of transparency, we want to state that the Newton Cultural Alliance (NCA) allowed LWVN to use the main building as the site of our fundraiser this past spring without charge. We made a donation to NCA to show our thanks in an amount equal to the fee paid to the All Newton Music School three years earlier for a similar event.

Regarding the current application, this is part of a multi-stage project that goes back to 2015. Our readers found that the organization has successfully managed its earlier construction projects and are inclined to recommend this project. However, one reader raised the question about whether or not the proposed theatre space would generate enough income needed to finish the renovations, and wondered if a needs assessment has been done. The idea was raised of possibly generating more income from providing rental space to non-profits and small businesses than from theatre space.

Thank you for the time and effort you've put in evaluating both these applications.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan Flicop".

Susan Flicop  
President, LWVN