

Date: Tue Aug 23 06:37:57 EDT 2011
From: "Wilkinson David, Comptroller City of Newton" <dwilkinson@newtonma.gov>
Subject: Re: closing CPA acct for Flowed Meadow boardwalk feasibility study
To: "Alice E. Ingerson/Applied History" <appliedhistory@rcn.com>
Cc: aphelps@newtonma.gov

Alice,

Thank you.

Balance closed to fy 2012 open space reserve.

Date: Fri Aug 19 14:15:55 EDT 2011
From: "Alice E. Ingerson/Applied History" <appliedhistory@rcn.com>
Subject: closing CPA acct for Flowed Meadow boardwalk feasibility study
To: dwilkinson@newtonma.gov
Cc: aphelps@newtonma.gov

Dear Dave,

Per Anne's email below, the Conservation Commission has voted to cancel this never-begun project.

So please close account 21A11403-52409 for "Flowed Meadow Impvmts" and return the full balance of \$30,700 to the CP Fund.

The original Board order (111-05 on 4/19/2005) seems to treat this as 100% for open space, but it's online here if you'd like to check (scroll down to "boardwalk"):

<http://www.newtonma.gov/cpa/projects/flowed-meadow/flowed-meadow.htm>

Thanks to all,
Alice

PS to Anne

I'll also try to remember to look for your minutes from this Cons Comm mtg once they're online, so I can link them to our webpage for this project as backup.

----- Original message -----

>Date: Fri, 19 Aug 2011 07:45:40 -0400
>From: "Anne Phelps" <aphelps@newtonma.gov>
>Subject: CPC funds for feasibility study of boardwalk
>To: aingerson@newtonma.gov

>

>Alice,

>

>The Conservation Commission voted unanimously at its meeting of July 28th,
>2011, to return the (approximately) \$30,000 that the CPC gave it for the
>purpose of conducting a feasibility study to construct a boardwalk at the
>landfill. Following a detailed in-house investigation, I found that such a
>project has little current support from the community, would require
>acquisition of an easement across an abutting property, and would be very
>costly.

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>Please let the appropriate persons know.

>Best,

>Anne

>-----

>Anne Phelps

>City of Newton

>Planning Department

>Sr. Environmental Planner

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>Newton Centre, MA 02459

>617-796-1134 ph

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>aphelps@newtonma.gov

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Community Preservation Committee

MINUTES of PUBLIC MEETING (excerpted)

18 May 2011

... In reviewing the list of current projects, members Bernheimer and Burg proposed asking the Conservation Commission to cancel the Flowed Meadow Boardwalk project, for which funds were appropriated in 2005 but no funds had been spent. Green had introduced a similar motion at a Conservation Commission meeting several months earlier, but the Commission had not yet acted on that motion.

Ingerson noted that a private citizen had initiated this proposal to design a boardwalk between the edge of the capped Rumford Avenue sanitary landfill and the Flowed Meadow wetlands. It had been delayed by testing to ensure methane from the landfill would not make it dangerous to use heavy construction equipment at the site. Staff had also discovered that the proposed route required an easement across private property. Finally, the acquisition and demolition of the last private home on Wabasso Street in 2007-08 with CP funds had provided clear public access to the conservation area from that side, removing a need the boardwalk was intended to meet. When staff contacted the neighborhood association, the principal of the Burr School, and the ward aldermen in 2010, they heard little to no interest in the boardwalk. However, the aldermen had asked that the appropriated funds be kept on hold, so they might be redirected to a later, different proposal for the same area. Burg felt it was better to return the funds and submit a new proposal separately.

VOTE Michael Clarke moved that the CPC request that the Conservation Commission cancel this project and return this appropriation to Newton's Community Preservation Fund.

Zack Blake seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted by a vote of 9-0.