Community Preservation Committee Minutes 10/30/23, 7:00 PM Remote Teams Meeting/Town Hall

Members Present: Dan Byer, Peter Denton, Michael Goddard, Anne Mazar and Kathy Schofield.

The meeting started at 7:05 PM with committee member introductions.

Mike made a motion to accept the 9/5/23 minutes as written, Dan seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Mike made a motion to transfer \$1,750 from the CPA Administrative Account to fund the Community Preservation Coalition annual dues, Peter seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Dan made a motion to recommend to the Town that \$10,000 be transferred from the Budgeted Reserve Account to fund professional design services for an 18-hole disc golf course on town owned land, location to TBD, Mike seconded the motion, all approved, except Peter abstained.

Mike made the point that more activities could help the economy of Mendon, because people who visit will most likely patronize the local restaurants and stores. He also made the point that the town needs more sports fields. Kathy pointed out that the Trask property has high potential for this with open fields and potential areas for parking. Anne said that the close proximity to Miscoe School makes the Trask property very desirable, but the town needs to work through some of the legal details of the property with the life estate currently on the property. She said that work is being done on assessing the Trask property, working through the legal aspects and evaluating its potential.

Mike made a motion to recommend that the Town vote to acquire by purchase, gift or otherwise and to accept the grant to the Town of a permanent conservation restriction, to hold as a co-holder with Metacomet Land Trust, Inc. or other eligible land trust organization or as the sole holder, encumbering all or a portion of the parcels described below, now or formerly owned by James R. Vandersluis and Cheri Ezell Vandersluis, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44B, §12 and G.L. c.184, §§ 31-33, to be under the care, custody and control of the Conservation Commission and Metacomet Land Trust, Inc., said parcels of land being described as follows:

A portion of two parcels of land with addresses of 101 and 109 North Avenue, consisting of 111 ± acres identified as Assessor Map 5, Block 189, Lot 101; and 15.0± acres identified as Assessor Map 5, Block 189, Lot 109 in the records of the town assessors; a map being on file with the Town Clerk,

And, further to see if the Town will vote to a) appropriate \$225,000 from the Undesignated Community Preservation Fund account under G.L.c.44B of the General Laws, as amended or any other enabling authority for this purpose and any expenses related thereto, including but not limited to the purchase price, legal and associated acquisition costs; and b) authorize the Select Board, Conservation Commission and Town officers to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments as may be necessary to affect said purchase and to take all related actions necessary or appropriate to carry out this acquisition; pending town counsel approval, Kathy seconded the motion and all approved, except Peter abstained.

There was a discussion on ADA trails. Dan said that this is a priority in the new Open Space and Recreation Plan.

Mike made a motion to adjourn at 7:33, Peter seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Submitted by Anne Mazar