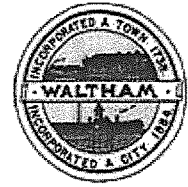


City of Waltham Massachusetts

Community Preservation Act

Historic, Open Space and Recreation

Funding Application WCPA-1



APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name of Applicant ⁽¹⁾ Waltham Historical Commission

Name of Co-Applicant, if applicable ⁽¹⁾ _____

Contact Name Pamela Lyons

Mailing Address 119 School Street
Waltham, MA 02452

Daytime Phone (i.e. of Proposal Applicant) 781 - 314 - 3389

PROJECT BASICS

Address of Project (or Assessor's Parcel ID) Mackerel Hill Conservation Area, Mackerel Hill section of DCR Beaver Brook
North Reservation, Shady's Pond Conservation Area, Northeast School, Chesterbrook Gardens, Prospect Hill Park

CPA Category (check all that apply):

☐ Open space

☒ Historic preservation

☐ Open space recreation

☐ Community Housing (You must also complete Application WCPA-2)

CPA Funding Requested \$50,000

Total Cost of Proposed Project \$50,000

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Attach answers to the following questions. Applications will be returned as incomplete if all requested information is not provided. Include supporting materials as necessary.

GOALS: What are the goals of the proposed project?

COMMUNITY NEED: Why is this project needed? Does it address needs identified in existing City plans?

COMMUNITY SUPPORT: What is the nature and level of support for this project? Include letters of support and any petitions.

TIMELINE: What is the schedule for project implantation? Include a timeline for all critical items for their

completion.

CREDENTIALS: How will the experiences of the Applicant(s) contribute to the success of this project?
Success Factors: How will the success of this project be measured? Be specific.

BUDGET: What is the total budget for this project? How will the CPA funds portion be spent? All items of expenditure must be clearly identified and justified. Detail the hard and soft costs. Identify contingencies.

OTHER FUNDING: What additional funding sources are available, committed, or under consideration? Include commitment letters if available. Identify all sources of other funding which have been sought for this project and the status of the requests.

MAINTENANCE: If ongoing maintenance is required for your project, how will it be funded? (Note that CPA Funds may not be used for maintenance, but maintenance is an important consideration for all projects.)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Provide the following additional information, *as applicable*.

DOCUMENTATION: Provide written documentation that you have control over the site, such as Purchase and Sale Agreement, option, or deed.

CONSTRUCTION OR REHABILITATION: ⁽²⁾ For projects with construction or rehabilitation, provide floor plans, elevations including the existing and proposed site plan(s), and any additional drawings or photographs which visually describe the project.

ZONING: Provide evidence that the project is in compliance with the current City Zoning Ordinance as Amended, as well as all other laws and regulations. If zoning relief is required, note the parts of the proposal not in compliance with the Zoning Ordinance, and when an application will be made to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

CITY APPROVALS: Provide evidence that the appropriate City Boards and Commissions approve of the project (Waltham Historical Commission for Historic, Conservation Commission for Open Space, Park & Recreation Board for Recreation, and Waltham Housing Authority for Community Housing). As an example, a project in a City park would require that the Park & Recreation Board accept the project.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS: Provide evidence that the proposed site is free of hazardous materials or that there is a plan for remediation in place.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS: Provide evidence that appropriate professional standards will be followed if construction, restoration, or rehabilitation is proposed.

LEVERAGED ADDITIONAL BENEFITS: Provide information indicating how this project can be used to achieve additional community benefits.

Notes:

(1) City Property: If the proposal is located on City-owned land, either the Applicant or Co-Applicant must be the City Board, Commission or Department that has custody of the land.

(2) Appraisals: If the requested funds are for a real estate acquisition, an independent appraisal will be required which the Applicant will be required to fund. No funding decisions will be made without an independent appraisal. Additional appraisals may be required for final approval.

FOR COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE USE ONLY

Application received on _____

Application received by _____

Date Project presented to CPC for Submission Acceptance Process _____

Was Project accepted for Consideration? _____

If accepted for Consideration, Project Public Hearing date _____

Following meeting Date for decision to recommend for funding _____

Was project recommended for funding to the City Council? _____

Was project funded by the City Council? _____

If project funded by the City Council, for how much? _____

Date funding Contract signed with applicant _____

APPLICATION SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Proposals for Community Preservation Act funding must be submitted using the City of Waltham's Application forms WCPA-1 and WCPA-2.

If the proposal is exclusively a community housing project, applicants must submit WCPA-2. If the proposal combines community housing with any other funding category, both WCPA-2 and the WCPA-1 must be submitted. Otherwise applicants can submit just WCPA-1.

All information requested on the application forms must be included with the proposal at the time of submission or it will not be accepted for consideration. Applications may not include any handwritten information.

Applications and all supporting documentation must be submitted as hardcopy with eleven (11) copies (including one unbound for reproduction) to the official mailing address as specified in Article VI. If an Application is recommended for funding by the CPC, then an additional 17 copies must be provided for use by the City Council.

Applicants are encouraged to include any maps, diagrams, and/or photographs pertaining to the project. Letters of support for the project from community organizations or other sources may also be submitted.

Applicants will also submit an electronic version of each and every document submitted in their application if available, either on CD or USB flash drive, preferably in Portable Document Format (PDF) or other commonly used file formats (eg. .doc, .docx, .xls, .xlsx, .jpeg).

Applicants should include actual quotes for project costs whenever possible. If not available, estimates may be used, provided the basis of the estimate is fully explained.

Applicants should pursue matching or supplemental funds from state, federal and/or private sources when available.

Applicants should detail who will be responsible for project implementation and management. Their relevant experience should be included in the narrative. Please be sure that project management costs have been included in the overall project budget.

**Waltham Historical Commission
Community Preservation Act
Historic Funding Application Form WCPA-1**

Goal

The project goal is to survey historic stone walls in the city with consideration for adding legal protection for stone walls identified as being historic. The survey will establish the exact GPS locations and the extent of the walls, photograph the walls at the GPS points, and upload the GPS data to a map compatible with the City of Waltham GIS maps. The survey will aid in the historic documentation of the stone walls.

Community Need

Recent renovation plans by Waltham Recreation Department for a girls' softball field led to an effort by the Waltham Historical Commission to identify its possible impact on adjacent historic stone walls. Subsequently, the Economic and Community Development Sub-Committee of the Waltham City Council requested that the Waltham Historical Commission conduct a survey of all the historic stone walls in the city. The City Council is considering adding legal protection for historic stone walls, and needs as part of that process an accurate inventory of all the historic stone walls in the city. Using surveys generated from aerial photographs, the city's Information Technology Department has already created for the Commission a preliminary map of many stone walls in the city. But informal ground surveys by Commission members have identified a significant number of stone walls missing from the preliminary aerial study, perhaps due to heavy vegetation obscuring the walls. Therefore, the Waltham Historical Commission is seeking funding to have a professional ground survey conducted to augment the aerial survey.

Waltham was established in 1738, and was originally part of the town of Watertown, one of four towns founded in 1630 in the Massachusetts Bay Colony. Beginning in 1636, Watertown officials divided the land in Waltham into squadrons and lots, to be allocated among the then-existing residents. Parts of what was to become Waltham were settled in the 1650s as Watertown residents expanded into these lots in the highlands, meadows and plains, just west of the initial settlement. As they established agricultural fields and woodlots in the subdivided lots, the farmers used field stones to erect boundary and agricultural stone walls. Our initial survey has shown many of the surviving stone walls are located in wooded public lands, and follow the original 1636 lot lines. Watertown has been heavily developed since its establishment 386 years ago, and does not have a lot of remaining open space, and therefore few surviving stone walls. Waltham, on the other hand, has some large tracts of open space, most of which are on public land. Since these areas were not developed, historic stone walls, some dating to the earliest decades of European settlement, have survived. These walls represent some of the oldest man-made structures in the Commonwealth, and indeed the nation.

There has been a recent trend of people wanting "old," authentic-looking stone walls for their residential properties, as demonstrated on a recent series of *This Old House*. In the latest series featuring a house in Arlington, the show's producers obtained, presumably legally, stones from an old stone wall in western Massachusetts. But other homeowners and builders have not been as scrupulous, and theft of historic stone walls has been a statewide problem. As one step in protecting the walls from theft, a survey of historic stone walls in Waltham would identify the stone walls as historic.

Community Support

The Economic and Community Development Sub-Committee of the Waltham City Council has requested that the Waltham Historical Commission carry out a city-wide survey of historic stone walls.

Timeline

Requests for proposals would be sent out as soon as possible. The ground survey, including collection of GPS data, would involve some bushwhacking, and therefore, fall and winter seasons are the best time to carry out the collection of data. Therefore, the ground survey data collection would most likely be conducted from November 2017 through April 2018. The upload of that data would ensue at the completion of the ground survey. The project will be split into three different phases by geographical area, the first phase of work being done at Mackerel Hill.

Credentials

Waltham Historical Commission members are recognized experts in the history of Waltham, were appointed by the Mayor, and approved by the City Council.

Budget

The funds would be used to pay a consultant and or student interns to gather the GPS data using ground surveys and to upload the data to a Waltham GIS compatible map.

Other Funding – None.

Maintenance – None. Historic stone walls are to be left “as is.”

Documentation - City Approvals

The areas to be surveyed would require approval from the following city departments and the DCR:

- 1) Mackerel Hill
 - a. Mackerel Hill Conservation Area – Waltham Recreation Department
 - b. A few acres in Beaver Brook North Reservation – Department of Conservation and Recreation. Note: the WHC has been in contact with the cultural resources staff at the DCR, and has their support.
- 2) Prospect Hill Park, including Berry Farm Park – Waltham Recreation Department [See Prospect Hill Report on the WHC website]
- 3) Shady’s Pond area
 - a. Shady’s Pond Conservation Area - Waltham Recreation Department.
 - b. A small area alongside the Chesterbrook Gardens, and a pond in back of Chesterbrook Gardens – Waltham Housing Authority.
 - c. A small area including the wooded areas around the Northeast School – Waltham School Department.

Construction or Rehabilitation – None. Historic stone walls to be left “as is.”

Zoning – All areas to be surveyed are on city municipal land or DCR land.

Hazardous Materials – no hazardous materials have been identified by city departments.

Professional Standards – no construction, restoration or rehabilitation is anticipated. Qualifications of consultant will accompany bids.

Leveraged Additional Benefits

The history of Waltham is taught in all third grades in the Waltham Public School system, and as an elective in the high school. The presence and history of historic stone wall structures, some of which may date to the colonial era, would enhance the School Department's history programs. Learning standards for third grade social studies include identifying historical buildings, monuments, or sites, and explaining their significance and how everyday people lived in the past. Teachers at the Northeast School have in the past taken pupils on walks on the school property and at the Shady's Pond Conservation Area. Knowledge of the historic environment would add to the walks.

Other groups in the city regularly conduct public events and hikes in these conservation areas, and the visual evidence of the evolution from farms to forest would enhance the educational experience of these events.



March 28, 2017

Clarence Richardson Jr.
Chairperson, Waltham Historic Commission
610 Main Street
Waltham, MA 02452

Dear Mr. Richardson,

On Wednesday, March 22, 2017 the Waltham Recreation Board voted unanimously to approve your request to document stonewalls on property under the care and control of the Recreation Department.

The Recreation Board would like a copy of the report once this project is complete.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Best Regards,

Nick Abruzzi


Acting Director, Waltham Recreation Department



Waltham Public Schools

Drew M. Echelson, Ed.D, Superintendent
drewechelson@k12.waltham.ma.us

TO: Waltham Historical Commission
Clarence Richardson, Chairman

FROM: Drew Echelson 

DATE: April 6, 2017

RE: Request to Document Stonewalls at Northeast Elementary School

At their April 5, 2017 meeting the Waltham School Committee took the following vote:

VOTED: On motion of Mr. Frassica, seconded by Mr. Graceffa, to allow the Waltham Historical Commission to document stonewalls on the Northeast Elementary School property, during non-school hours and with prior notice provided to the Director of Facilities before entering the property.

Lyons, Pamela

From: WHC
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2017 3:15 PM
To: Lyons, Pamela
Subject: FW: Letter of March 14, 2017

Waltham Historical Commission
www.city.waltham.ma.us/historical-commission

Waltham Historical Commission
Arthur Clark Government Center
119 School Street
Waltham, MA 02452

From: John Gollinger [jgoll@walhouse.org]
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2017 3:07 PM
To: WHC
Subject: Letter of March 14, 2017

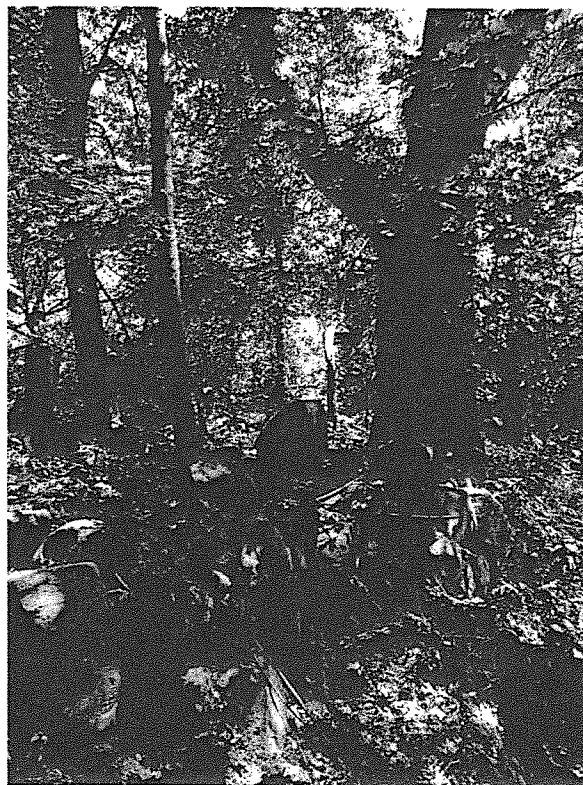
Mr. Richardson,

You are more than welcome to come onto our property for your research. I would only ask that you let us know the dates you will be out there so that if residents call about "strangers" walking the property we know that it is probably you or your group. As a history buff I would be interested in what you find and might meet you at the site if I am available. If you have any questions or concerns please contact me.

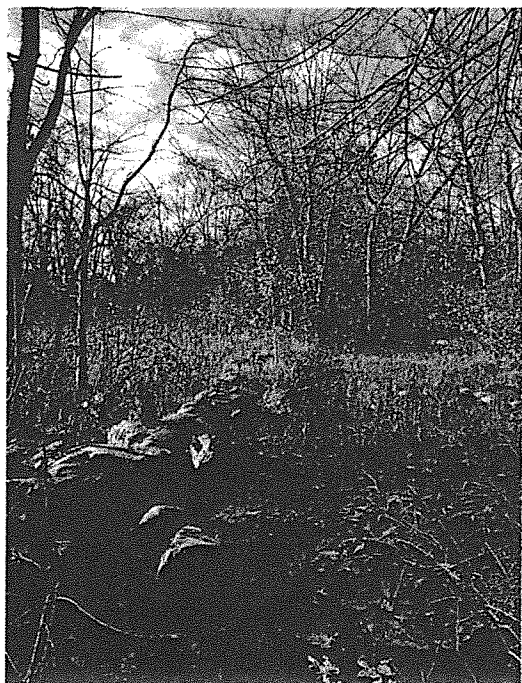
John F. Gollinger
Executive Director
Waltham Housing Authority
781 894-3357
jgoll@walhouse.org



Mackerel Hill



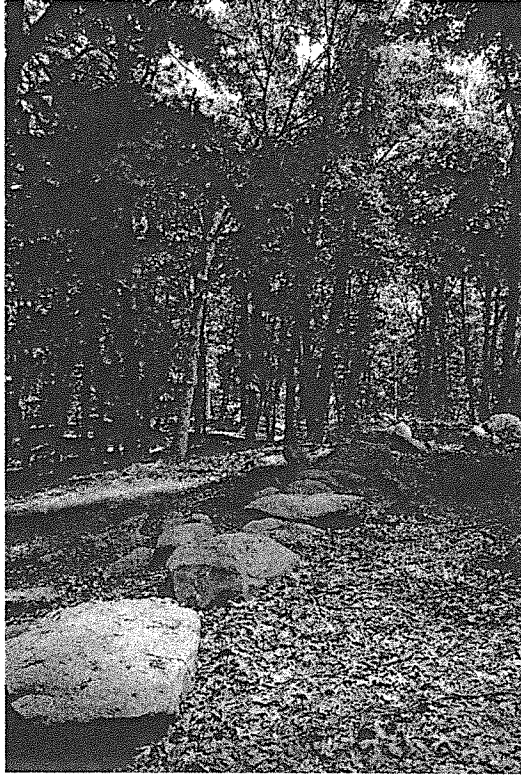
Lot line stonewall, Mackerel Hill



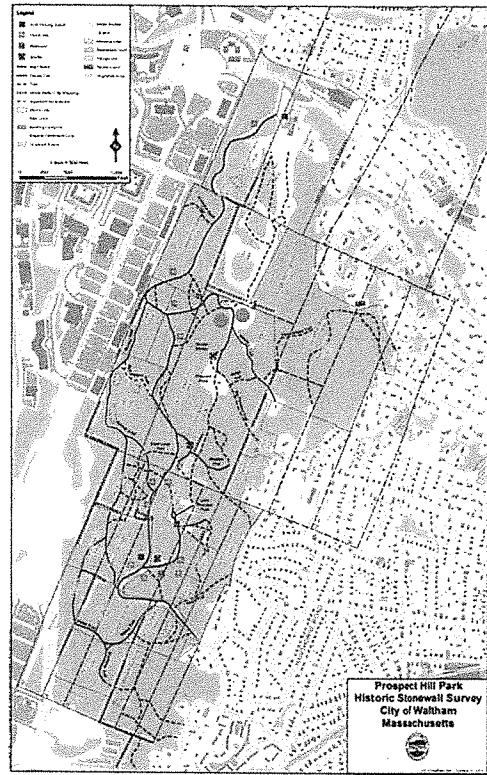
Shady's Pond



Colonial passageway, Northeast School



Berry Farm



Prospect Hill Park

