

**City of Waltham Massachusetts  
Community Preservation Act  
Historic, Open Space and Recreation  
Funding Application WCPA-1**



**APPLICANT INFORMATION**

Name of Applicant <sup>(1)</sup> French American Victory Club

Name of Co-Applicant, if applicable <sup>(1)</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name Robert Delaney (or Doreen LeBlanc)

Mailing Address 193 Elm Street, Waltham, MA 02453

Daytime Phone (i.e. of Proposal Applicant) 781-899-8195

**PROJECT BASICS**

Address of Project (or Assessor's Parcel ID) Parcel ID R069 004 0003

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 \$ 112,644

Total Cost of Proposed Project \_\_\_\_\_

**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

ATTACHMENT

City of Waltham Community Preservation Act  
Open Space and Recreation Funding Application WCPA-1

The French American Victory Club (FAVC or French Club) is a social men and women's club that preserves French Canadian and Acadian culture and heritage, as well as providing social events, including horseshoe league, billiards league, cornhole league, French Canadian card games, French Canadian dinners, and traditional fiddle and country music. The French Club also contributes (function hall and parking lot) to various organizations in the Waltham community, including GWARC, Creative Head Start, Waltham Youth Baseball & Hockey, Special Olympics, as well as an annual college scholarship. Fundraising activities include ham & bean supper, breakfast with Santa, spaghetti supper, Sunday jamboree and annual yard sale. The French Club has meetings twice monthly, which include the elected officers, Board of Directors and members. All adults are welcome to apply for membership. Annual dues are \$45. The French Club is proud to have a Vice President and Guard who participate in the Special Olympics.

The first meeting of the French Club was held on October 8, 1944. At that time it was a men's club, with a women's auxilliary formed in the 1960s. The original French Club building was built in 1920 on Elm Street, with the larger addition in 1944. The property was recently assessed at \$625,300 by Patriot Properties Inc. (copy attached). During its first few decades, the French Club was an important place for tradesmen, factory and mill workers, as well as laborers who immigrated from Canada to meet and network for jobs.

Since the closing of St. Joseph's Church and St. Pierre School, several years ago, the French Club is now the only organization in Waltham that continues French Canadian traditions.

The history of the French community in Waltham is well documented in the book "Waltham Rediscovered, An Ethnic History of Waltham Massachusetts" by Kristen A. Petersen in collaboration with Thomas J. Murphy (pages 261 - 311). [copy provided]

Maximum capacity of the hall is 395.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

GOALS: The goals of this project are to bring the building on Elm Street into compliance with Federal, State and Waltham Building and Fire Codes, most importantly to install a fire sprinkler system, install a new fire protection line from the main line to the building, proper handicap access and exhaust ventilation, wiring and ductwork in the kitchen.

COMMUNITY NEED: Since the French Club is often rented for social events, the fire sprinkler system will allow for groups of 100 or more people. The handicap ramps will allow access to all people unable to use the stairs. The exhaust hood and ductwork will ensure a safe environment for cooking in the kitchen. The hall is rented at an affordable price to people in the community for funeral receptions, fundraisers, weddings, showers, as well as to other ethnic groups including Hispanic and Ugandan.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT:

The following initial quotes were received (copies attached):

Fire Firecom Systems \$40,000 - fire sprinkler system

Berry Fire Protection Inc \$35,600 - fire sprinkler system

M.T. Mayo Corporation \$28,600 - excavate and install fire protection line

P.W. Ryan Company Inc \$20,000 to \$25,000 - excavate and install fire protection line

FAVC WCPA-1 Project.txt

Seidman Bros Inc \$12,270.94 - exhaust system, wiring, ductwork  
East Coast Fire & Ventilation Inc \$14,850.00 - exhaust system, wiring,  
ductwork  
Next Day Access \$13,000 - handicap access ramp

**TIMELINE:**

The schedule for implementation and completion: Estimate one year to complete all projects

**CONTINGENCY:**

We expect to allow for a 20% contingency for any unexpected costs.

**CREDENTIALS:**

A committee will be named to include several French Club members who are experienced tradesmen and who can review quotes and understand the process. These individuals, working together, will be able to keep track and measure the success of the projects, and report this to the officers and board members.

**BUDGET:**

The total budget for this project is \$112,644, including the 20% contingency, with all funds being spent on the four named projects.

Since the start of the French Club, members continue to donate their time for overall management and maintenance projects, which are essential to keep the French Club running.

**MAINTENANCE:**

All ongoing maintenance required after project is completed will be done by the French Club as part of the annual maintenance budget.

**DOCUMENTATION:**

Deed and quotes attached.

**CONSTRUCTION OR REHABILITATION:**

Proper permits will be acquired by the contractors providing the services for the project.

**ZONING:**

**CITY APPROVALS:**

**HAZARDOUS MAERIALS:**

**PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS:**

**LEVERAGED ADDITIONAL BENEFITS:**

The community will have a safer environment for all meetings, fundraising and social events and gatherings of any type.