

**Report of the Community Preservation Committee to Special Town Meeting**  
October 19, 2016

Earlier this year, the Community Preservation Committee postponed two projects submitted in the FY2017 CPA funding application cycle (five other FY2017 applications were funded by Annual Town Meeting in May). The Committee strongly supported these projects but they required additional preparation time for the Town due to the truncated first-year CPA process. They are now ready for Town Meeting's consideration and are presented at this Meeting because of their time-sensitive nature.

Both proposals are for preservation work on beloved historic properties in Arlington that are owned and operated by nonprofit entities. A strong and enduring public purpose must be served when awarding CPA funds to any non-town organization, and the Committee has worked over the past few months with the applicants, Town Counsel and outside counsel to prepare robust legal agreements and updated historic preservation deed restrictions, to be executed upon Town Meeting appropriation, that ensure the long-term public interest in committing CPA funds to help preserve these treasured resources.

The Jason Russell House is an important Revolutionary War site. It is visited by virtually every third grader in Arlington Public Schools and is open for regular public tours. The recommended \$35,000 appropriation (see reverse) will help fund urgently needed replacement of fascia, soffit, gutters and clapboards that have been compromised due to weather and rot. It will also support an architectural/engineering study to determine what is necessary to stabilize the structure for the long-term future.

The barn at the Old Schwamb Mill is a historically important outbuilding in the complex. It predates the Mill itself and was a key part of the Schwamb manufactory for over a century. The Barn is part of the Old Schwamb Mill public tour, featuring exhibits about the machines and power systems that were part of early industrial development along Arlington's Mill Brook. The proposed \$20,000 project will replace the wood shingle roof and trim on the Barn.

Both of these recommended appropriations would be funded from a \$94,141 account comprised of FY2017 CPA revenues that Annual Town Meeting 2016 set aside "for later FY2017 Town Meeting appropriation for any CPA purpose."

**RECOMMENDED VOTES ON THE REVERSE**

**ARTICLE 4**

**APPROPRIATION/CPA - JASON RUSSELL HOUSE**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$35,000 from the Community Preservation Fund for preservation work and an engineering assessment of building conditions at the Jason Russell House to preserve historic resources, or take any action related thereto.

Inserted at the request of the Community Preservation Committee

**VOTED: That the sum of \$35,000 be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund FY2017 Budgeted Reserve to the Arlington Historical Society for the preservation of historic resources, subject to the scope of work, budget and conditions in the project proposal dated 2/21/2016 for preservation work and an engineering assessment of building conditions at the Jason Russell House (7 Jason Street), and further subject to the condition that no funds be dispersed until both a grant agreement with the town and an historic preservation deed restriction for the property be executed, such funds to expended under the direction of the Arlington Historical Society and the Community Preservation Committee. (8-0)**

**ARTICLE 5**

**APPROPRIATION/CPA - OLD SCHWAMB MILL**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$20,000 from the Community Preservation Fund for a new roof and trim at the Old Schwamb Mill barn to preserve historic resources, or take any action related thereto.

Inserted at the request of the Community Preservation Committee

**VOTED: That the sum of \$20,000 be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund FY2017 Budgeted Reserve to the Schwamb Mill Preservation Trust, Inc. for the preservation of historic resources, subject to the scope of work, budget and conditions in the project proposal dated 2/22/2016 for a new roof and trim at the Old Schwamb Mill Barn (17-18 Mill Lane), and further subject to the condition that no funds be dispersed until both a grant agreement with the town and an historic preservation deed restriction for the property be executed, such funds to expended under the direction of the Schwamb Mill Preservation Trust and the Community Preservation Committee. (8-0)**

Respectfully Submitted,

**Clarissa Rowe, Chair**  
Community Preservation Committee

**Members:** Andrew Bengtson (Selectmen Appointee), Mike Cayer (Arlington Redevelopment Board), Eric Helmuth (Vice Chair, Selectmen Appointee), David Levy (Selectmen Appointee), Leslie Mayer (Arlington Park & Recreation Commission), Richard Murray (Arlington Housing Authority), JoAnn Robinson (Arlington Historical Commission), Clarissa Rowe (Selectmen Appointee), Chuck Tirone (Arlington Conservation Commission).