

Construction of a baseball diamond on Ripley School land also required our review this year; we were happy to be able to agree that the location posed no problem.

The Historical Commission was asked to comment on the renovation of Peter Bulkeley Terrace building; we toured the building with the Housing Authority Executive Director and made a number of recommendations for the preservation of historic details in the building.



*Mass Historical Commission Preservation Award Ceremony  
From left: Brona Simon, Director Mass Historical  
Commission; Gary Clayton, Chair CPC; Mark Boyle, MBTA*

### *Other Projects*

The Historical Commission has attended meetings and reviewed resource materials relating to the development of the Battle Road Scenic Byway. Created by the Massachusetts General Court to “recognize, protect and enhance the unique historic, scenic, cultural, and recreational resources along this road,” the Byway includes the towns of Arlington, Lexington, Lincoln and Concord.

We’ve also undertaken a review of our Historical Resources Masterplan with the hope of revising and expanding it in 2010.

We continue to respond to requests for historical markers for houses in Concord and are pleased that a number of West Concord residents have requested the new West Concord Depot house marker for their homes.

## **BRUCE FREEMAN RAIL TRAIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Judith LaRocca, Chair  
Harry Beyer  
Gerard Boyle  
James E. Coutre  
Virginia McIntyre  
Kenneth C. Miller  
Barbara Pike  
James B. Terry

The Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Advisory Committee (BFRTAC) focused on three main areas: continuing the 25% design effort with local funding, pursuing Community Preservation Committee funds and State-wide Transportation Enhancement funds to complete the design, and participating in multi-community discussions regarding common trail aspects.

In the spring, the consultant completed and submitted Right-of-Way plans to MassHighway. In late June, the MassHighway 25% design hearing was held. A consulting firm was hired to complete a survey of the railroad spur in West Concord. Based on feedback from the 2008 Town Meeting, the BFRTAC hired the consultant Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. to review the trail crossing of the MBTA line in West Concord and to produce an Alternatives Analysis Report and recommendation. In early 2010, the BFRTAC will review this report and hold a public information session.

The BFRTAC applied for Community Preservation Act funding to complete the rail trail design in Concord. The Community Preservation Committee brought forth a Warrant Article that provided partial funding. Town Meeting approved \$125,000 to be used for advancing the rail trail design.

Concord, jointly with Acton, Westford, and Carlisle, applied for Statewide Transportation Enhancement funding. An intermunicipal agreement was signed by these communities to facilitate the completion of the design of Phase 2A (Acton, Westford, Carlisle) and Phase 2C (Concord) if funding was granted to this

application. In September, the \$500,000 FY2009 State-wide Transportation Enhancement funds were awarded to complete the design of Phase 2A. The BFRTAC continues to work with the State planning organizations in an effort to obtain the \$500,000 FY2010 Statewide Transportation Enhancement funds for completing the design of Phase 2C.

The BFRTAC participated in meetings with representatives from the other trail communities in an effort to achieve some commonality for certain trail aspects. The BFRTAC provided input on trail logo design, trail rules and guidelines, mile markers, town line boundaries, and trail amenities. In August, Phase 1 (6.8 miles) of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail opened to the public in Lowell, Chelmsford, and Westford.

## WHITE POND ADVISORY COMMITTEE



*James Lyon, Chair; George Barnard, Fred Lingren,  
Julie Melbin Arra Avakian*

The White Pond Advisory Committee (WPAC) was established in 1973 as an advisory and liaison committee to review and analyze the concerns of the White Pond watershed and play a leadership role in acting as steward for the pond and its environs. White Pond was described by Thoreau as the “Gem of the Woods.” Today, it remains a prime Town resource for passive recreation and fishing.

### *Water Quality*

The WPAC works with the Friends of White Pond (FOWP) in regards to water testing and helping obtain funding for increased water-quality monitoring. This

would include phosphorous testing, quantification of aquatic vegetation, and a survey of erosion sites on the shoreline. FOWP has been conducting regular water quality tests of clarity and dissolved oxygen on a volunteer basis.

### *Erosion Control*

The WPAC worked closely with the Division of Natural Resources (DNR) this past year in identifying critical erosion areas contributing to the degradation of water quality. Water bars, fencing and signage have been added to key erosion areas to help minimize this problem. The WPAC looks forward to working further with the DNR and continuing this approach.

### *White Pond Reservation*

Many efforts have evolved over the years from the Committee’s concern about the Town-owned property known as White Pond Reservation. It is located on the southwest shore of the Pond, extending back over forty acres of woods and trails to the Sudbury border. While it has been proposed before, there is currently no management plan in place for this spectacular property since its acquisition by the Town in 1992. The WPAC continues its working relationship with the DNR to encourage the proper use of this area, along with Town officials promoting this valuable resource to its residents.

### *Comprehensive Pond Management Plan*

The WPAC has completed a Community Preservation Act (CPA) application for a comprehensive pond management plan with the Town. The application is for a plan that would provide baseline data on the health of the pond, a program for maintaining the ongoing water quality, quantify issues associated with private land ownership within the White Pond watershed, and a position on the recreational uses and limitations of the Pond. The Town has made this application on behalf of the WPAC and is being carried out by the DNR. The WPAC feels this application is of the utmost importance to ensure that White Pond and its watershed will maintain its clear waters for the enjoyment of future generations.

### *Building and Renovations in the White Pond Area*

A continuing responsibility of the WPAC is to work with the Building Commissioner and other Town Committees in review and advice in regards to new construction (e.g., additions, landscape changes, etc.) in the White