



THE NAHANT PRESERVATION TRUST, INC.

P. O. BOX 30, NAHANT, MA 01908

A non-profit corporation, formed to carry out beneficial and civic purposes including preserving historic buildings and protecting open space for public and community purposes.

This information will also be available at the Town Meeting, but we thought you might like a preview copy.

April 22, 2015

To Our Friends & Neighbors:

More than ten years ago, the Town approached the Nahant Preservation Trust (NPT) which had preserved the Valley Road School and asked us to take on another task - restoring and maintaining the Life Saving Station. As part of that responsibility, we engaged with the Town Manager, the Historic Commission, and the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) in creating a long term plan.

In the continuation of that plan, we hope that you will be able to attend Town Meeting this Saturday (the 25th) at 12:30 and vote to support our CPC approved request to continue needed capital improvements at the Life Saving Station. The CPC approved a grant for capital improvements to the site in the amount of \$95,000. (The article as approved by the CPC appears incorrectly as Article 28 L on page 21 in the Finance Committee Book. The corrected amount of \$95,000 appears as Appendix C on page 93.) The \$95,000 grant will accomplish the following:

1. \$70,000 to complete the site work as per the master plan for the Station. This work includes improvements to the parking lot, planting and protective fencing for the dune area behind the Station, replacement of the chain link fence with a post and rail fence and restoration/repair of the concrete walkways. These funds, added to the monies left in the Short Beach Reservation CPA grant of 2012, complete this multi-year effort. The work has been approved by the CPC and has also received the approval of the Conservation Commission.
2. \$25,000 to remove the concrete steps at the front of the building and to replace them with more historically accurate (and much safer) wooden stairs. This work has been approved by the CPC and has also

received Conservation Commission approval.

An additional \$25,000 was requested to re-point and repair the stone foundation of the Station. The CPC elected to defer this request at this time.

Since the Town took over possession of the Life Saving Station from the Federal Government in 1997, approximately \$1.5 million has been invested in the capital renovation of the property. The NPT has been able to revitalize the buildings through the generosity of the community including CPC funding.

Funding sources of these capital improvement to date are as follows:

Amount	Source	
\$647,235	Private Gifts and Donations	43%
\$250,000	American Legion Contribution	17%
\$585,000	Community Preservation Grants (3)	39%
\$ 13,000	Town	1%
1,495,239	Total Capital Expenses	100%

The Life Saving Station is serving its envisioned role as a public/private use community asset. Happily, our current operating revenues are able to cover the Stations' operating expenses and maintenance.

Within the restrictions of the special permit for operation of the property, the Nahant Preservation Trust has been able to provide low cost Town-wide access to our Nahant non-profit and community organizations. The Station has been utilized by our Lions Club, Woman's Club, Garden Club, 01908, Swim, Council on Aging, Boy/Girl Scouts, and the annual 4th of July gathering. In addition many Nahanters have used the station for private events such as weddings, birthdays, rehearsal dinners, retirement parties, showers, conferences, etc.

This \$95,000 grant request will bring the capital investment for the restoration of the Station near to completion. The parking area and walking paths will be safer. The plantings (added to the beach grass) and the fencing will protect and preserve the dune on a long- term basis.

We hope that you will come out and vote to support this article so that we may continue to protect this important heritage site while keeping access safe and open to all. Please share this note with your friends and encourage them to join us in preserving our town's unique history.

See you at Town Meeting on the 25th at 12:30 and stop by at our display to learn more about the NPT.

