

CPA Proposal Application Form – Joe Povoas

A. Project Description/Eligibility for CPA funding

1.

- Project Name – **Povoas Park**
- Address – 80 Center Street [corner of Bridge Street and Center Street, picture attached]
- Parcel # 21U-300
- Current owner: Povoas Family since approximately 1960
- Zoning: Residential
- Pending May 2010 town meeting approval – land to be donated to the Town of Easton
- Use will be restricted to “recreation” only

Funds Sought: \$25,252 (details attached)

While this amount reflects a fully funded project as described below, be advised that we are willing to be approved for a lesser amount.

History:

Our family has owned this property for the past 45+ years. Historically it once contained a small convenience store and when my father bought it where he hoped to one day operate his barber shop. As that never happened, our family has simply over the years maintained the property, cutting the lawn, bushes and 5 years ago, rebuilding the garage structurally and with a new roof.

Without town sewerage and as the lot size is too small to install a septic system in order to build a home, our options for the foreseeable future are limited to either a) selling to a boundary neighbor or another interested party or b) continue to maintain it in the current manner for an indeterminable length of time. This is the least desirable option.

Approximately two years ago I approached the Town Administrator to solicit interest in the idea of developing the land for use as a park, to be named “Povoas Park” in memory of my parents, if we donated it to the town. Mr. Colton was and has been positive and agreeable to the idea if approved by town meeting. He has however recently explained and cautioned that due to very limited financial resources, the town has no funds for construction and development of the project and felt it would be at least several years before the town could offer financial support.

Location:

The land is situated in an optimal location for a simple, small community neighborhood “pocket park”.

Such a park can serve many purposes including protection and conservation of Easton’s landscape and heritage while maintaining the existing features of the neighborhood.

While it will be too small for physical activities, it will provide greenery and a place to sit outdoors for quiet, brief socializing and resting for the many residents in town passing by including those in the nearby elderly housing at Elise Circle and Parker Terrace.

Features:

I have provided/presented two plans with this application with the most ambitious and detailed [PLAN A] or detailed is a “best case scenario” designed by a landscape architect which includes more extensive plantings and landscaping. Costs for this Plan A as provided by Palm Landscaping are attached. The lesser plan [PLAN B] which I designed is equally compelling. In any plan, I have submitted the following requirements that the town has agreed to in order for the donation to go forward:

- 1) Is to be named “**Povoas Park**” in memory of my parents, both immigrants to this country and long time residents of this town for 72 years (mother) and 42 years (father). An appropriate bronze plaque set upon a memorial stone will be provided by our family.
- 2) A separate smaller memorial plaque will also be provided and tastefully placed in memory of a good friend, Joe Cronin, who grew up on Baldwin Street. Joe nicknamed this spot “The Western Front”. In 1991 Joe died in an accident in Aruba and his body was never found. This is the closest his parents will have to a final memorial to their son.
- 3) It will have a water “bubbler” much like the one generations of town residents have enjoyed in the Frothingham Park for a clean and sanitary drink of fresh Easton water while walking or running by.
- 4) As they are most impacted by the plan, neighbors have been notified of the project and their input has been solicited for ideas on design and layout.
 - a. This was done in August 2009 through personal visits and if contact was not made, a descriptive letter was left behind (copy attached). In all but one visit, the idea was warmly and enthusiastically endorsed.
- 5) The Parcel Park can never be used for any purpose other than Povoas Park. It will be maintained by the town and the Povoas family will have final sign-off on the design.
- 6) The Povoas family obtains a tax write-off for the donation.

Other features:

- Will have 3 – 4 comfortable metal benches, permanently installed along a stone dust walking path.
- The existing garage is included which will be available for use by the town or a town department for appropriate storage needs. It is in excellent condition with a concrete floor as well as the recent replacement of the roof, siding and structural timbers.

- The goal of the design is for a park that is functional, tasteful and blends well with the surrounding neighborhood yet is able to be easily maintained with minimal expense to the town.

Community support:

Town Administrator: David Colton

Easton Recreation Commission: On September 22, 2009, I met with the recreation commission to present the project and answer questions to solicit support for the park. After meeting and discussion, commission voted favorably to endorse the project and support application for CPA funding.

Stonehill College: As a graduate of Stonehill College and a former longtime resident of town, I was also aware of their extensive social contributions to the local communities the college has provided as well as the annual stipend paid to Easton in lieu of taxes. With that in mind, I approached the college through the Office of the President, Father Mark Cregan, to solicit interest in their contribution of time, materials and labor for the construction of the project. After discussing the matter with the office of General Counsel as well as the Director of Facilities, the college has agreed to provide some help with the construction as needed. (letter attached).

Neighbors and Community Organizations: One neighbor proactively approached me with a donation of \$250. Project presented to the Easton Garden club and they have given a verbal commitment of approximately \$500.

Povoas Family: Some additional limited funds are available on an as needed basis. It is anticipated that our family will also provide the “water bubbler”.

PLAN A

Projected Costs: (provided by Palm Landscaping – November 2009)

Nursery Stock

Kousa Dogwood (2)	600	
Aristocrat Pear (3)	1,500	
Espaliered Firehorn (1)	175	
Annuals (day lily, black eye susan etc)	200	
Tax	<u>125</u>	\$2,600
Benches (4)	<u>1,438</u>	\$5,752
Construction		
Site Preparation	1,000	
Stone dust path w/ cobblestones	1,950	
Stone walls	6,550	
Lawn	2,500	
Granite Steps	1,050	
Boundary fence	<u>650</u>	\$13,700
Labor (includes 5 yds mulch)	<u>3,200</u>	<u>\$3,200</u>

TOTAL

\$25,252