

Community Preservation Fund Eligibility Form



TOWN OF BILLERICA
 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
 365 BOSTON ROAD, BILLERICA MA 01821

The purpose of this form is to make sure that all project applications applying for Community Preservation Act funding are eligible for funding. This form must be approved in order for an application to be accepted.

Project Title:	Billerica Minuteman Statue		
Project Sponsor/Organization:	Dan Burns / Town Managers Office		
Contact Name:	Clancy Main		
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CPA Program Area (check those that apply):

- Open Space Historic Preservation
 Community Housing Recreation

Project Purpose (check those that apply):

- Acquisition Creation Preservation
 Support Rehabilitation/Restoration

Project Summary: Please provide a brief description of the project.

Below is an excerpt from the Billerica Minuteman Statue Association Website:

Imagine, if you will, the year is 1775. The American Revolution had not yet begun. In early March, at a town meeting, a vote was passed to raise a company of 50 minutemen. On March 8th, a young Billerica farmer named Thomas Ditson Jr. went to Boston to buy a better firelock, as he wanted to be a Billerica Minuteman. Mr. Ditson was tarred and feathered by the British soldiers in order to demonstrate to the citizens of Boston that the British meant business.

On April 19th, 1775 Lt. Col. Francis Smith began a march to Concord, with 700 British troops, in search of ammunition that the patriots had stored. An unknown alarm rider rode from neighboring Bedford and reached Billerica around 2:00 am. The alarm was sounded throughout the town and soon the minutemen and the militia were mustering on the common and at the Pollard Tavern. One of the first to hear the alarm was Mr. Thomas Ditson Jr. who along with over 100 men, farmers, husbands, shopkeepers and doctors, gathered that morning and started their march to Concord.

They took with them more than just their firelocks and bayonets. They took with them the support of the colony, the churches, and the newspapers. These ordinary farmers and townspeople were dedicated, brave patriots.

The Billerica patriots saw action beside the Miriam farmhouse in Concord. Miriam's Corner marked the beginning of the running battle between the growing ranks of militia and minutemen companies and the British troops as they attempted to return to the safety of Boston. The Billerica Minutemen also participated in the battle of Bunker Hill, where over 1000 patriots fought for our freedom, the Battle of Bennington, VT, and the Rhode Island Campaign among many other places.

Billerica was just as an important part of the revolutionary war as Concord, Lexington, and Bedford. All of these communities have rich histories and statues regarding that time period.

For CPC Use Eligible Not Eligible Date: _____

Reviewer: _____

COMPLETE AND SUBMIT THE PROJECT ELIBILITY FORM.
DO NOT PROCEED UNTIL ELIGIBLTY HAS BEEN DETERMINED.