



Karen Fitzgerald <kfitzgerald@arlington.k12.ma.us>

Fwd: Fw: Fw: Request for a Letter of Support

Leonard Kardon <lkardon@arlington.k12.ma.us>
To: Karen Fitzgerald <kfitzgerald@arlington.k12.ma.us>

Tue, Dec 10, 2019 at 9:50 AM

Hi Karen,
Please attach this to the Jason Russell House item.
Len

From: George Parsons
Sent: Thursday, November 7, 2019 10:53 AM
To: jthielman@arlington.k12.ma.u <jthielman@arlington.k12.ma.u>
Cc: bill_hayner@comcast.net <bill_hayner@comcast.net>; Stuart Brorson <brorson@theworld.com>; Kate Potter <k.duncan.potter@gmail.com>; Sara Lundberg <sara@arlingtonhistorical.org>
Subject: Request for a Letter of Support

Dear Mr Thielman,

Thanks for your recent presentation on the new High School at the Arlington Rotary Club. As you were leaving I said I would be in touch.

The Arlington Historical Society is the current steward of an important American historical treasure, the Jason Russell House in Arlington. In that stewardship role, we have accomplished a great deal with funds generated from the Arlington Community Preservation Commission (CPC), the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) and from our own internal funds.

Our first CPA grant in 2016 matched with MHC funds enabled us to complete an extensive Condition Assessment and Preservation Plan (CA&PP) for the Jason Russell House. This document details what must be done in restoration and maintenance to preserve this historical treasure for the people of Arlington over the next ten years.

The first phase of restoration work was done in 2017-18 and included reconstruction of the bulging north wall of the JRH, replacement of the missing gutter on the east side of the JRH, repointing the foundation under the north wall and strategic tree work.

Your earlier letter of support facilitated a second CPA grant and that was matched additional MHC grants. The tasks are taken directly from the CA&PP generated above and included restoration of the foundation and sill on the west side of the JRH, restoration of historically significant windows in the JRH, restoration of ceilings and upgrades to fire alarms.

We are asking for letter of support from you and the rest of the School Committee for our next CPA grant. We are applying for a grant of \$78023 to continue work on the sills and foundations on the south and east sides of the JRH, more window restorations and repointing of the main chimney. We have also included funding for architectural and engineering oversight and staff time to administer the grant. Learning from experience, we have also included a 25% contingency fund that will hopefully cover what we find when we start to work on this house built in 1745.

As you may know, letters of community support are part of the CPA application and we are hoping for such a letter from the your office. The letter should be addressed to Eric Helmuth, Chair, Community Preservation Committee, Town Hall, 730 [Massachusetts Avenue, Arlington, MA 02476](#). The grant application is due to the Town in early December so if you could send your letter of support by November 30, 2019, it would be appreciated. I would also appreciate a copy via email.

I have enclosed a copy of your last support letter.

Thanks in advance for your help and please let me know if you have comments, questions or suggestions.

George

George Parsons, Ph.D., Managing Director, Parsons Group LLC, [23 Brewster Rd, Arlington, MA 02476](#) 617 823 7259

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Len Kardon
Arlington School Committee Member