Town of Lincoln, Massachusetts
Community Preservation Committee
Project Submission Sheet

Requests received by November 15, 2004 will be considered for recommendation at the April 2005 Town Meeting.

Project Name: Browning's Field Riding Ring Restoration

Submitted by: Charlotte Tim 
Vicky Hochiatto Submission Date: November 15, 2004

Address, Phone, E-mail: charlottem@comcast.net, 108 Godman Rd, Lincoln Tel: 781-259-8711
Vlochiatto@comcast.net, 65 Trapelo Rd, Lincoln tel: 781-259-3412

Town Committee or Organization (if applicable): Affiliated with Old North Bridge Pony Club

Brief description of the project: The restoration of the riding ring at Browning Field. Constant use has made the surface rock hard and there are deep ruts around the outside. We intend to increase the width by 10", re-fence and re-surface the ring for future generations.

Time frame for completion of the project: We hope to start the project once the ground has dried enough in Spring 2005. We estimate it will be completed within 4 weeks, weather permitting.

How does this project help preserve Lincoln’s character or further its mission? Horses have always played a prominent role in Lincoln’s past. The restoration of the riding ring would provide a safe place for beginners to learn, and advanced riders to train. We are planning to give a series of Fall Pony Rides every year, to give the whole community an opportunity to share our horses.

What are your funding requirements?

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PLEASE ATTACH SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS OR OTHER INFORMATION

For CPC Use: 
Received on: 1/1 Received by: _____________ 
Determination: 
Reviewed on: 1/1 

2006.05
Estimated Costs

The bulk of the cost will be spent on resurfacing the arena. The surface will be as ecologically respectful as possible. We will be using all natural materials: crushed stone topped with sand. No synthetic substances, such as chopped rubber will be used.

We have been working with Scott and Andra Evans, professionals who engineered the outdoor ring at Love Lane. They inspected the site and gave us a verbal quote of $13,000. Before finalizing any formal contract, we will of course invite other bids from local contractors, preferably living in or with strong ties to Lincoln.

With regards to the fencing, Ed Swain has offered to help us by digging the post holes for the new fence for a very reasonable fee of $400. The additional labor required to finish the job will be provided by members of the Lincoln equestrian community. Furthermore, 2 additional gates and some extra fencing materials will be required, with an estimated cost of $500.

Finally, we will need to buy the appropriate implement to drag the ring (chain harrows), approximately $600, and we are allowing $400 for sundry items, and budget overspending.

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Maintenance costs and Fund-raising

This year we have organized a series of Fall Pony Rides at the ring as a fund-raiser for the restoration project. We took pride in sharing our horses with all the community, and it seemed wholeheartedly appreciated by the children.

In total, this effort raised $650.

Furthermore, one of our members donated the proceeds of a series of riding lessons to members of the Old North Bridge Pony Club.

This effort raised a further $330.

We intend to continue the Fall Pony Rides over the coming years, in a hope to raise enough money to cover the routine maintenance costs, and also to ensure it remains an asset to all the community.
Affiliation with the Old North Bridge Pony Club

The Old North Bridge Pony Club covers the Lincoln – Concord – Carlisle area. It’s mission is to encourage children to achieve high standards in all disciplines of the equestrian arena. Lincoln has a growing group of very talented young riders that successfully compete with the Old North Bridge Pony Club.

Approval from the Conservation Commission

Please find attached a copy of Tom Gumbart’s email agreeing to the project and in particular to the 10ft expansion northwards of the ring.
Dear Charlotte,

As per our recent discussion, following is an estimate for the Browning's Field riding arena located in Lincoln, MA. The quote is based on arena dimensions of 110' X 200'.

The cost of the arena will be approximately $13,000. This estimate includes material (stone dust and arena footing) as well as equipment and labor.

Please keep in mind that this is an approximate price at this time. I will forward a hard copy of the quote by mail including any revisions in material, equipment and labor and, therefore, price within one week. Please be sure to let me know if you have any questions in the meantime.

Thank you for the inquiry regarding the arena and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Scott R. Evans
From: "Gumbart, Thomas" <gumbartt@lincolntown.org> [Add to Address Book]
Source
To: <vlochiatto@comcast.net>
Subject: RE: Riding Ring
Date: Tue, 9 Nov 2004 19:31:13 +0000

Vicky,

If adding 10 feet to the ring will make it a viable riding ring then that should be on the extent feasible the expansion should be towards the north, away from the hayfield.

Tom Gumbart

-----Original Message-----
From: vlochiatto@comcast.net [mailto:vlochiatto@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, November 09, 2004 9:41 AM
To: Gumbart, Thomas
Subject: Riding Ring

Dear Tom,

Just curious as to the outcome of our note to you about our request for 10 feet in width to the riding ring. It would be super to get the fence before the ground gets to hard and then the footing done in the spring.

Also we would really appreciate your reply by the end of the week so that we can submit an application to the Conservation Preservation Commission.

Your help is always appreciated,

Thanks, Vicky LoChiatto, Nancy Bergen and Charlotte Trim
To the Community Preservation Committee,

The Riding Ring at Browning’s Field has played a central role in Lincoln's equestrian community, once serving as a 4H meeting venue and even a showground. It has been an important visible reminder of our agricultural heritage, and an example of Lincoln’s volunteer spirit, since it was built and has been maintained by volunteers over the past 40 years.

However, with constant use the surface has become rock hard with deep ruts around the outside, presenting a safety concern to both horse and rider, and the fencing is falling down. It is time for major restoration of the footing and fencing in order to continue to keep our ring safe and useful for future generations.

Lincoln’s riding community is very diverse, and we feel the ring should cater to all needs: from riding lessons, pleasure riding, to more advanced disciplines such as dressage and jumping. Therefore we have requested that the ring be extended by 10ft in width, which would also make it large enough to accommodate fund-raising events, to cover the maintenance of the ring in future years.

The Lincoln equestrian community’s volunteer spirit is as strong and resourceful as ever. This fall we joined together to offer a series of Fall Pony Rides as fund-raisers for the ring, making our own horses available to all in the community. This proved popular with so many children that we hope to do this every year, again, to cover future maintenance costs. Other members have given riding lessons in return for donations to the restoration fund. Furthermore, a major contribution – fencing – has been generously donated by Berryfield Farm on Weston Road.

Now we need to raise money and energy to complete the project. An estimated $15,000 is required to give the Ring a new lease of life and provide a resource for the next generation. While equestrian sports are often considered a luxury that only the affluent can afford, this is far from the reality. Some of us just love our noble horses too much to give it up.

Please help us preserve this wonderful asset, so we can continue to introduce horses to the community through shows, lessons and pony rides in a safe, well-tended ring.

Thank you,

Victoria De Lucchiato 65 Trapelo Rd
Elizabeth Lucchiato 65 Trapelo Rd
Laurie T. Dewey 79 Lincoln Rd
James Del Mili 45 Trapelo Rd
Frank Hammar 45-A Trapelo Road
Martha P. DeNormandie 65 Trapelo Rd, Lincoln
Stacy Dr  61 Sandy Pond
CATHI JAHRLING  10 CANAAN Dr.
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Thank you,

Charlotte Trim, 108 Codman Rd, Lincoln

Ann Braithwaite, 248 S. Great Rd, Lincoln

(Barry Harrison)

Ann M. Zilly, 250 S. Great Rd, Lincoln

Deborah Sablone, 155 Weston Road, Lincoln, MA
Christopher Field  108 Corliss  Lincoln
Jennifer & Paul Berghind  14 Butterfield Rd  Lexington, MA 02476
(BoatHouse at 122 Tower Road, Lincoln)
November, 14, 2004

To the Community Preservation Committee,

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Thank you,

[Signatures]
December 6, 2004

John Koenig, Chair
Lincoln Community Preservation Committee

Dear Mr. Koenig & CPC Members,

Several residents representing the Lincoln equestrian community attended the Conservation Commission’s meeting on December 1st to discuss their proposal for rehabilitating the Riding Ring on the Upper Browning Field Conservation Land. The Commissioners appreciated having them come to the meeting and there was strong support from the Commission for this project. Horseback riding has been a part of conservation in Lincoln for many years and the Commission is pleased that the tradition is continuing.

Here is a quote from a 1967 letter from Bob Lemire (then Chair of the Conservation Commission) to Bisty Donaldson (for the 4-H Club) granting permission to use the Browning Field for equestrian activities. “The Conservation Commission heard your request for use of the Browning Field by the Lincoln 4-H Horse Club with great interest. It is this type of use which is entirely compatible with land purchased by the town for conservation purposes.”

The current Commission echoes Mr. Lemire’s statement and hopes that CPA Funds can be used to make a safe and enjoyable riding ring that Lincoln residents can take pride in. It needs to be noted here that the Upper Browning Field is a large field that supports breeding Bobolinks, a locally rare grassland bird, and it is hayed by Codman Community Farm after the nesting season. The repair and use of this ring that is located in a corner will not impact the agricultural and wildlife values of the field. Please contact me if you need further information or clarification.

On behalf of the Lincoln Conservation Commission,

Tom Gumbart
Lincoln Conservation Director
December 1, 2004

Vicky Lochiatto  
65 Trapelo Road  
Lincoln, MA 01773

Dear Vicky,

Below please find the adjusted and final quote for the riding arena at Browning's Field with dimensions of 110' X 200'. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any further questions. I look forward to hearing from you.

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<td>$7,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>200 yards arena footing</td>
<td>$5,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Equipment &amp; Labor</td>
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Sincerely,

Scott Evans
108 Codman Road  
Lincoln MA 1773  

January 8th 2005  

Attention: John L. Koenig  
Community Preservation Committee  
Lincoln, MA  01773  

Dear John,  

Re: Renovation of the riding ring at Browning’s Field  

As promised, please find attached a revised budget for our renovation project, which reflects the final estimate for the footing. I also enclose a photocopy of a plan of the proposed riding ring.  

I am also happy to share some photos of the Annual Lincoln 4-H shows in 1971 and 1972. I hope you enjoy them too. At that time it was a very popular event, with entries limited to 225 riders and horses!  

Thank you for your help throughout the application process. It is very much appreciated.  

Yours sincerely,  

Charlotte Trim
Town of Lincoln, Massachusetts
Community Preservation Committee
Project Submission Sheet

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Submitted by: Charlotte Trim & Vicky Vlochiatto  Submission Date: November 15, 2004

Address, Phone, E-mail: charlotte.trim@comcast.net, 108 Godman Rd, Lincoln
Tel: 781-259-8711
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4-H Plans
For Show

LINCOLN—The annual Lincoln 4-H Horse Show is the highlight of the year for the members of the 4-H Horse Club. It involves the work of all the members and their families preparing the field, painting and building jumps and fences, arranging the equipment at Browning's Field and organizing the volunteers to work during the show.

This year Ruth Hapgood is the general show chairman assisted by Bea Haartz, Janet Read, Margaret Hellburn, Lis Donaldson, and Gwen desCognets.

Judges for the show include, Mrs. Cynthia Campbell of Dracut, Mrs. Joseph Lombard of Medway, and Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Norton of Purcellville. Mrs. Margaret Whitfield of Concord will announce the events and winners of the day.

With the entries limited to 225 riders and horses, there will be ample room for spectators to watch the events in the two rings and the outside course. Refreshments will be provided throughout the day by the Student Exchange Committee of the L-S regional high school.

THE 16th ANNUAL LINCOLN 4-H HORSE SHOW will be held on Sunday, May 13, at Browning's Field. Pictured above is Caroline Pizzino of Lincoln on Gem in the Senior Horsemanship over Fences event last year.