

## **Community Media Center Committee Meeting Minutes**

**January 25, 2012**

### **Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance**

The meeting was called to order by S. Dowdell in the Connie Christensen Children's Room of the Library at 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Linda Chamenko, Sue Dowdell, Art Daigle, E. Groth, Dave Pokras, Steve Ruhl, Bob Spear

Members absent: Allison Sirowich, Ed Micklos, Doug Bousquet

Ex-officio members/other present: Michael Krenesky (7:15 p.m.)

### **Public Comment**

None

### **Review of the Agenda**

#### **Approval of Minutes**

**A Motion was made by B. Spear and Seconded by E. Groth to approve the meeting minutes from September 28, 2011. ALL Voted AYE, except A. Daigle and D. Pokras who abstained.**

Minutes from the information only session held on October 26, 2011 were read by S. Dowdell and discussed by members.

#### **Correspondence**

S. Dowdell read a letter dated October 10, 2011 from committee member D. Pokras. He expressed his views on moving forward with the project without funds being readily available at this time.

Meg Gill submitted a letter to the committee regarding her concerns on electronic resources for the Library. Currently there are over 1,000 patrons participating in the overdrive service offered by the Library.

#### **Report from Board of Selectmen**

S. Dowdell met with First Selectman G. Smith on December 1, 2011, B Spears was also present during the meeting. First Selectman G. Smith informed them, no decision has been made on the Lewis property all options will be explored. There has been discussion on moving some of the offices located at Town Hall to make additional space of approximately 1,200 feet for the Library. Renovations need to be made to the property before the offices can utilize the house. S. Dowdell recommended First Selectman G. Smith speaks with John Peterson on the feasibility of using the downstairs. Questions need to be answered regarding the required square footage needed for the Library. Can the additional 1,200 feet serve the needs of Beacon Falls and if so for how long? A meeting with the Librarian and new Library

Board members will be held soon to update long range plans with them. There was a discussion on the possibility of scaling down the project and submitting 2 designs for the Community Media Center. E. Groth would like to see us “focus on what we must have”. M. Krenesky told the Committee during a meeting the Economic Development Committee reviewed plans on constructing the Library on the community parking lot property. This idea was previously discussed some 8 years ago. Concerns over traffic and parking needed to be addressed at that time.

**Building Program for Project (scope & specifications)**

Committee members discussed tabling the RFP at this time until direction from Board of Selectman is received.

**A Motion was made by B. Spear and Seconded by A. Daigle to draft a letter to the Board of Selectman regarding the Committee’s feelings on the recommended size of the Community Media Center which is to be located on Wolfe Ave. AYE: B. Spears, D. Pokras NAY: L. Chamenko, S. Dowdell, A. Daigle, E. Groth, S. Ruhl MOTION FAILS**

**A Motion was made by A. Daigle and Seconded by D. Pokras to authorize S. Dowdell to draft a letter to the Board of Selectman requesting clarification and guidance on our original mission for the Community Media Center. Also, request Board of Selectman to attend our next scheduled meeting on February 29, 2012 at 7 p.m. ALL in Favor.**

**Funding**

**A Motion was made by L. Chamenko and Seconded by A. Daigle to authorize S. Dowdell complete the required paperwork for the 2012-2013 town budget. Approximately \$30,000 will be needed for the RFP/RFQ in addition the salary for the Committees Clerk will be added at a cost of approximately \$100.00 per meeting. ALL in Favor.**

**New Business**

**Adjournment**

**A Motion was made by L. Chamenko and Seconded by A. Daigle to adjourn the January 25, 2012 meeting at 8:00 p.m. ALL in Favor.**

**Next meeting: Wednesday, February 29, 2012 7 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Conte  
Community Media Center Committee Clerk