

TOWN OF HARVARD

MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS COMMITTEE



Meeting Minutes – 3 March 2011, 9:30-11:30 AM, Town Hall Meeting Room

Attendees

Pete Jackson, Lucy Wallace, Doug Coats, Ron Ostberg (chair, secretary), Marie Sobalvarro; Carlene Phillips and Mrs. Mia MacRae (visitors)

1. Minutes of meetings from 13 January 2011 to 25 February 2011 were distributed. Lucy asked that people confirm their attendance at various meetings. Ron will review, add attachments and bring to next meeting for approval.
2. Public Comment. Ron invited Mrs. MacRae, a retired teacher, to share her comments and concerns with the committee.
 - Is concerned about the tax impact of approving a \$9 million project. Ron clarified amount being sought at 2011 ATM (\$225,000) and process going forward.
 - Agrees Town Hall absolutely needs work; the town is growing.
 - Hildreth House is charming and beautiful; how many use it? She doesn't (except to take computer classes); she agrees it should be fixed – but wonders if that will attract more seniors.
 - Old Library – why do we need it? Liked idea of non-profit running it as cultural center.
 - Seniors are on fixed income; friends have left to be closer to family or to find a cheaper place to live.
 - Agrees Harvard doesn't provide many services for seniors (but she has family and doesn't need them).
 - What about senior housing so seniors could stay in Harvard? Most want to stay in their own homes, but eventually must move because can no longer manage or cannot afford.
3. Will request a one-page insert to FinCom Report/Warrant for ATM.
4. Discussed format and materials for LWV forum on March 10, 2011: start with providing context for MBC charge and work and then present our recommendations to ATM. Allow at least 1 hour for question and answer period. Lucy will coordinate with Audrey Ball and ask Marge Darby and Tim Clark to speak to context portion.
5. Ron will try to attend Capital Planning meeting this afternoon at 5:30 and will see if Marie can attend.
6. MBC has been invited to make a brief presentation to the Planning Board on Monday, March 7th. Ron, Pete and Lucy will attend.
7. Next meeting: Thursday, March 10th at 9:30 AM.