

TOWN OF HARVARD

MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE



Meeting Minutes – Meeting # 30 – 10 January 2012, 6:00 – 7:00PM, Old Library – Fireplace Room

Attendees

Wade Holtzman, Doug Coots, Peter Jackson, Chris Cutler, Lou Russo, Ron Ricci

Lucy Wallace, Chris Ladds

1. Meeting Minutes
 - a. Read and approved December 22 meeting notes as amended.
 - b. Read and approved December 15 meeting notes.
2. Last Minute preparations for presenting recommended Schemes to the Board of Selectmen for BOS meeting:

Update from Chris Ladds: LLB is still working on reducing the scale of scheme 2, continuing reorganization of main building (product of meeting between Tim Bragan and Drayton); public counters moved close to entry. LLB will start marking specific areas in open work space (like Town Clerk's desk). Corridors are 8ft wide, toilets have been stacked.

The intention of BOS meeting tonight is to report on our choice based on the 1/5 meeting, review where we've been and what we need going forward.

Lou expressed concern about the vote taken at the last meeting on 1/5/12, he feels the vote was rushed and would like the opportunity to vet plans more; thinks more deliberation is needed. Lou thinks that we would be wise to reconsider our vote; feels that the idea of "Scheme 1.5" is unclear. Lou is not suggesting that we are far off; just that we should clarify our vote. His hope is to be at the size of Scheme 1. Lou would like to retract the 1/5/12 vote, and then later present a defined decision to BOS.

Pete countered that what we voted for was the concept, not the details; the motion included a move toward Scheme 1. Pete feels we can move forward with Scheme 2 and tweak it to fit our needs.

Doug argued that we didn't base our motion and vote at the 1/5/12 meeting solely on the information presented that day; we had been working with LLB since the "bubble diagrams" to move toward a preferred scheme. Doug thinks the situation we are in now is a part of the normal design process and is concerned that we will signal to the BOS that we can't manage the process if we retract our vote.

Chris Cutler sees the 1/5 vote as a motion of direction; we can reduce the size of the addition.

Wade agrees with Lou, he feels that we didn't have time to really look at and vet the plans. Wade feels we have not done a good job, he finds inconsistencies with the information presented last week, and how info has been disseminated. Wade still has questions, like: how much is the 2000 sq feet on the second floor costing us if we then need to put on a large new addition?

Lou doesn't think that retracting a vote would be embarrassing; he thinks it's wise to take a step back and then come back with what we think is right.

Pete heard a lot of support for keeping the second floor space open at last ATM.

Lou feels there is still a large population in town that would like to outfit the second floor with permanent offices. It seems that we can't have both performance space and municipal services. Thinks performance space is being given preference.

A Russo/Holtzman motion to reconsider our vote of 1/5/12 and have another meeting to discuss our options and make a final decision before presenting to the BOS was defeated in a 2/3 vote.

Yay – Russo and Holtzman

Nay – Cutler, Jackson and Coots

Chris Ladds added that as LLB understood the motion accepted on 1/5/12 – all that was approved was a concept with the understanding that the size would be decreased.

3. Discuss potential appointees and vote on recommendations to the Board of Selectmen to fill two vacancies:

A Russo/Coots motion that the MBC recommend to the BOS that they revise our charter so that the MBC should have 5 members is unanimously approved.

There is overall agreement that we will ask for volunteers to help at key points.

Meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting dates:

- a. Friday or Tuesday (location and time TBD)
- b. January 19th

Rachel Holcomb