

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 29, 2016

PAGE 1

Board members present: Chairwoman Dennis, Selectman Bugbee and Selectman LaCourse

Others present: Larry Kindberg, Paul and Annie Gasowski, Cheryl Pitkin, Carla Wilson, Cary Brown, John and Anne Tappan, Barbara McNamee, Cindy Von Oeyen, Ruth Eifert, Katrinka Pellecchia, Cynthia Giguere, Peg Dolan, Chief Dronsfield and Town Administrator Julie Glover.

1. The Select Board has a teleconference with the Town Attorney.
2. Chairwoman Dennis calls the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.
3. Chairwoman Dennis opens the meeting up to public comment.

Cheryl Pitkin, Wadleigh Falls Road, asks if the Board could use email to communicate with the public who may not be able to make it to the meetings. She is concerned with cutting down trees and displacing wildlife in order to build a new library, but she is pro-library education. Her biggest concern with the \$3 million original library is the cost and the size.

Selectman Bugbee states that today marks the last officially scheduled meeting that Chairwoman Carole Dennis will be presiding over and he would like to thank her for her time on behalf of the town. He presents her with a gift from himself and Selectman LaCourse. It is an engraved gavel which she tries out.

4. Stefany Shaheen, Communications Consultant for Spark NH, gives a presentation on the benefits of providing quality early education in the early years of a child's life. The video presentation articulates that brain architecture supports lifelong learning, behavior and health. Early experiences shape the brain's architecture. Simple skills come first and more complex skills build on top of them. Strong foundation in the early years improves the odds for positive outcome and a weak foundation increases the odds for problems later in life. Serve and return interactions with adults are crucial. Mild short lived stress is good for growth, but Toxic Stress such as abuse, neglect or exposure to violence can cause Toxic Stress in the brain which can have lifelong consequences. There are 4 Actions that Spark NH would like to see happen. 1. Spread the Word. 2. Connect. 3. Take a Stand. 4. Support and Spur Innovation. Mr. Brown asks how they are going to measure any kind of success that there is running this program. Ms. Shaheen states that the goal is to spark a statewide conversation about investments we want to make as a State and individual communities.
5. Annie Gasowski states that it is important that the Trustees continue to promote, plan and advocate for the library despite the Bond defeat last year. They believe that the 2009 report is a good place to start. The Trustees are open to other possibilities when looking at buildings. They hope that a comprehensive plan will come out of the next Town Center Committee and hope that it will include all of the buildings in the Town Center. Peg Dolan would like to know up front what the Select Board would support for a bond. Barbara McNamee was Chairwoman of the Board in 1996 when the last addition was put on to the library. At that time they talked about going out the side towards the church. They are open to different ideas. Katrinka Pellecchia says that they are open but she thinks that it is generally recognized that the two services cannot exist at that site. They can't plan for anything as long as Town Hall remains at the same site. If the Town Hall is relocated then that would open up more opportunities. Carla

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 29, 2016

PAGE 2

Wilson states that the Foundation has raised about \$78,500 with little effort. They are waiting for the Town to come up with a plan. It is hard to ask for money when you don't know what you are asking for. They have donors for specific projects. Cindy Giguere asks what the Select Board's vision is for the Town. She thinks that having an independent and impartial evaluator come in to do a comprehensive report would be a good idea because all the town committees are advisory. The Select Board will ultimately have to make a decision and obtain financing.

Selectman LaCourse agrees that the two can't live together in the existing area. He has said publically before that the administration should leave the existing Town Hall. He would suggest renaming the TCC to Facilities Committee. He thinks it would be hard pressed to get another bond within the next couple of years; however, he does think that the citizens of Lee like the quaint library and they would probably go strongly with adding to the existing structure. He would like to revitalize Town Hall by giving it a foundation. He likes the idea of expansion onto the Library. Peg Dolan hopes that the Capital Reserve Fund does not get taken away.

Chairwoman Dennis was surprised that they didn't come forward again. Ms. McNamara says that without the support of the Select Board they didn't feel confident enough. Ms. Dolan added that with the new Town Center Committee they felt they needed to wait to see the outcome. Chairwoman Dennis adds that it is difficult when the Board members are changing every year as well.

Selectman Bugbee would like the new committee to engage with AG Architects to find out how much each of the 3 proposals will cost and find out from the community where they are at. He sees this as a multiple phase project. Everything cannot be done at once. Chairwoman Dennis agrees with the phased approach. She thinks maybe a Trustee should be on the new committee as well.

6. Larry Kindberg presents on behalf of the Rec Commission a draft LRP Pavilion Usage Policy. They tailored the policy around the Stratham Hill policy. There is discussion relating to the how long the pavilion should be open. The Board finally agrees on keeping the time the same as the park rule which is sunrise to sunset. Selectman Bugbee has an issue with the fee being so high. There is discussion relating to reservations, how many require a reservation and the fee. Mr. Kindberg suggests marking down their suggestions and/or comments and returning to discuss them at a later date.

The Easter Egg Hunt is Saturday, March 26th at Town Field (next to the school) at 9am.

The Fishing Derby is either Saturday, May 7th or 14th (Mr. Bugbee thinks it is the 14th) and will be held at the Steven's property from 9am until 12 noon. The Firemen's Association will be running the fish fry at the Pavilion instead of the fire house this year.

Model Rocket Day will happen again this year in conjunction with the Cub Scouts. No date yet.

The Rec Commission has been talking about having a Flea Market, Family Picnic Day and Movie Night all three at the Pavilion this summer.

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 29, 2016

PAGE 3

7. TA Glover asks the Board about their availability for the March 8th elections. Selectman LaCourse has a full schedule that day at the university and Chairwoman Dennis has a management evaluation next week. Selectman Bugbee will have to do 7:00 am – 5:30 pm. Selectman LaCourse will do 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm.

TA Glover asks the Board for permission to close the Select Board office on Thursday for Tyler Technology payroll training. The Board agrees to half the day and to be sure send a notice out via the E-Crier email. If we need another ½ day later we can do that.

8. Chairwoman Dennis moves to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Selectman Bugbee, seconds. All in Favor. **Motion Carries.**

Selectman LaCourse would like to see microphones for the Board and speakers. Chairwoman Dennis would like to see a cheat sheet for the projector operation.

9. Select Board Public Meeting Minutes from February 1st and February 16th. Selectman Bugbee, seconds. All in favor. **Motion Carries.**
10. Chairwoman Dennis moves to accept Manifest #17 and Weeks Payroll ending February 28, 2016. Selectman LaCourse, seconds. All in favor. **Motion Carries.**

11. Chairwoman Dennis was wondering if the Board wanted to revisit the renaming of the Town Center Committee. Selectman LaCourse wants to call it the Facilities Committee. The Board agrees on having 9 members with 2 alternates. The suggestion from the Board at the last meeting was that interested citizens present what they thought should be the next charge, but according to Paul Gasowski that has not happened. Selectman Bugbee would like to see something presented so the Board can get a sense of what they would like to see happen.

Chairwoman Dennis also would like to be in on the discussions for the department heads (excluding Caren Rossi) in regards to their merit bonuses. The Board set aside \$18k for both department head and staff bonuses for this year. She asks the Board if they would consider one more meeting before she completes her service on March 8th. She suggests getting something from the Planning Board Chair with regards to Caren Rossi. They agree to meet on March 7th to complete department head evaluations in non-public session. The TA will forward a couple evaluation forms to the Board to choose from.

Selectman Bugbee reports that the Proclamation Ceremony went very well. The 250th Committee would like to give a stipend to the Middle School Band for their performance. The Mast Tree project is finished on the Town side of it. The next event is the pancake breakfast on March 13th at the Grange. On March 18th there is an event called “Lee Remembers” at the Public Safety Complex. The Easter Egg Hunt is on March 26th and the Fish Fry will hopefully be on the May 14th. The Bell is out. The 2nd bell will be auctioned off at the Settlers Jubilee in August.

Chairwoman Dennis thanks everyone for all of their help during the past 3 years and thanks the Selectmen for their gift. It was very nice.

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 29, 2016

PAGE 4

Cheryl Pitkin would like to see more networking done by the Select Board. She would also like to see more free flowing conversation.

Chairwoman Dennis reminds Cheryl and the audience that this is a Select Board meeting. That doesn't mean that the public cannot weight in, but the Board has business that it has to get done during these meetings without interruptions from the audience. It is not that the Board does not value the public's opinions. The public may call a Select Board member if he or she chooses or share thoughts with the TA. Chairwoman Dennis believes that the meeting has to be structured to be efficient or it would last all night.


12. Chairwoman Dennis motions to adjourn at 7:55 pm. Selectman Bugbee, seconds. All in favor.
Motion Carries.

Minutes transcribed by:


Denise Duval, Town Secretary

3/14/16
Date

Minutes accepted by The Lee Select Board:


Carole Dennis, Chairwoman


Scott Bugbee


John LaCourse