

Town Center Committee Meeting Minutes

October 5, 2015

The meeting was brought to order at 6:03 pm.

Present: Julie Glover, Ruth Eifert, Scott Nemet, Larry Kindberg, Cary Brown, Ron Pitkin, Caren Rossi, Paul Gasowski, Jan Allen and Chuck Cox

Peg Dolan, Annie Gasowski, Katrinka Pellecchia, Cindy Van Oyen: Library Trustees

Julie summarized the original mission and action to date for the trustees. Ron suggested the trustees ask any questions or make suggestions, or share their thoughts on the idea of expanding the library in place. He explained some of the Committee's discussions about whether the library would continue to pursue the idea of building a new building on Bricker property or if they would consider using the existing building.

Katrinka has been involved with the former Town Center committees (2009). She is concerned that the town offices and library would not fit together nor have enough parking. She thought at least 20 more spaces would be needed.

Katrinka asked if they had considered putting both town offices and Library in a new building on the Bricker property.

Julie suggested that there would be negative feedback if all the original town center buildings were left empty. She suggested that the Committee was really looking for input on the library plans.

Katrinka stated that the Library needs to be improved and that adding on to the existing building will just be a five-year Band-Aid. Annie added that they want a library that is modern and futuristic.

Peg asked if allowances had been considered for library costs per square footage and that compromise may be needed.

Ron explained the design for the new Town Hall expansion and what would be available for the library.

Caren handed out maps of all properties involved and explained the drawings. A discussion took place on parking and the Annex's current parking which is on the DOT right-of-way. She said that a new septic system could be placed under the parking lot. Larry Kindberg confirmed that he would need to speak with Church officials to see if there is interest in selling a piece of land to the Town.

Cary stated that the plan would be to phase the construction.

Jan asked the Trustees, if the town offices moved out, would the library consider using the existing building and expanding.

Chuck suggested that things had changed since the last projects. If the church property was now available there would be more space to consider for parking and expansion than had been previously available.

Cary suggested we not start over but go forward with the presentation of the three proposed recommendations (expand town center, add to PSC, build new Stevens Field.)

The Trustees left at 6:45 and the meeting continued.

The question was raised that this committee should/could not make decisions for the library, but only present possibilities.

It was decided that we needed to present our goals and objectives as part of the presentation to the Select Board. To this end each will write up their ideas and e-mail them to Julie, who will condense them as she did the pros & cons.

The rough drawings of the Town Hall addition was presented and discussed. It calls for a 2000 square foot addition. Ruth presented a drawing of what a library addition would look like in the space and she suggested it would not add much usable space due to ADA issues.

Next meeting is set for Wednesday, October 21st at 6:00 pm.

Submitted by Jan Allen