

Edmond Town Hall Board of Managers
SPECIAL MEETING
Tuesday, November 24, 2015
Old Court Room
Edmond Town Hall, 45 Main Street, Newtown, CT

Present: Margot Hall, Marie Smith, Jennifer Chaudhary, Anna Wiedemann, Mary Fellows

Absent: James Juliano

Also Present: Sheila Torres

Chairman Hall called the meeting to order at 4:20pm.

Replacement of 3 windows, west side of gym – Two quotes were received for the replacement of the windows, one from DiGiorgi and one from Superior Remodelers. DiGiorgi didn't quote tempered glass because it doesn't require it and their quote is per window, not for all three. To add it would be an additional \$315 per window. Both vendors have been used in the past. Mrs. Chaudhary moved to replace the basement windows and accept the DiGiori quote for \$6,075, which is the low bid. Mary Fellows seconded, motion unanimously approved.

Hook & Ladder Co #1 Fire House – Ms. Fellows expressed interest that the Edmond Town Hall Board of Managers consider the possibility of taking over the Hook and Ladder building and repurpose it (Attachment A). She would like to incorporate it for additional space for the arts. There was concern expressed because they cannot pay their monthly bills without dipping into the savings. Concerns were expressed about how much it would cost to repurpose it, how much would it cost to maintain, and who would utilize the space. Ms. Fellows moved to look into a stewardship for the old firehouse to do a feasibility study of renovation and expand on that type of space. Mrs. Wiedemann seconded, motion unanimously approved.

Explorer Fund Raiser – "Sale" of balcony seats – This is an adopt a chair campaign. Ms. Fellow's presented an idea of what a campaign could look like. There are 152 seats. With the donation you would get a card providing a discount on sponsoring restaurants as well as your name on a plaque on the chair or a plaque in the lobby. Mrs. Hall moved to have Mary Fellows work with Mary Hawley Society and develop a plan. Mrs. Chaudhary seconded, motion unanimously approved.

Social Media community comments vis-a-vis Edmond Town Hall – The comments on Facebook are an indication that people don't know what they do here. They would like to work up a press release that identifies all the things that we have done and how we are moving forward. Re-evaluating the business plan is also ideal.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30pm
Arlene Miles, Clerk

Attachment H

The Firehouse project.

With the impending move of Newtown Hook and Ladder, I request that the board of Edmond Town Hall move to request from the Town of Newtown,

Stewardship for the Old firehouse to do a feasibility study for it's renovation and expand Edmond town halls lack of large open community space.

Here in the town hall, we lack large, high ceiling open spaces available for temporary long term rentals for Art installations, seasonal classes and work shops that would like to run for 30 days to several months.

Our large spaces are suitable for athletic events or trade/craft fairs, stage shows or ballroom events.

We have small offices suitable for monthly tenants like The Borough, Chamber of commerce and Lathrops and we are rented to capacity.

Newtown has a collection of art and better health groups that have stressed an Interest in having a cooperative space that could suit their needs, not available at this time.

Groups like Scan and Newtown Photographers Club (both decades old art organizations) have never had a place to meet regularly and install art works and shows detected to an "Art only" space.

Groups like the Stray Cats theatre, could use a small Black Box space and Teaching space for the summer theater arts as well as Newtown Friends of music to hold smaller musical events.

Newtown has already done a study of this Firehouse and other soon to be vacant spaces in Newtown.

The Company hired gave a "Verbal-only" recommendation of the work needed, no report was made.

As you can Imagine, presented was the worse-case scenario for this building, compounded with the Fire departments "Doom and gloom" to make their point of how they have (rightly-so) outgrown this space.

If you read the History of this building, it was created by the sheer dedication from the Firemen of the day, and not by the town (somethings never change) also, Newtown Hook and ladder would like to see it saved.

So, with the testament of ^{dedication} ~~detection~~ of that day and need for an art and creative space today, I would like to make a motion to save this wonderful building.

Thank you, Mary Fellows