

MINUTES OF:  
TOWN OF SEEKONK FINANCE COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING  
June 18, 2013

PRESENT:

Chairperson: Myrna Gagnon-Elderkin  
Karen Perkins  
Robert Blanchard  
Edith Kerkorian  
David Francis

Director of Finance: Bruce Alexander

Board of Selectmen: Michael Brady, Nelson Almeida, David Parker  
Animal Shelter Building Committee: Jan Parker, Pat Cloutier, Karen  
McHugh

Ms. Gagnon-Elderkin called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

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Animal Shelter Building Committee

Ms. Cloutier updated the committee on the status of the animal shelter construction project. Project moving along, by fall construction will be started. Funding includes Town funds appropriated, gift funds that were bequests, plus \$50,000 from Save-a-Pet. Town funds are under jurisdiction of the Board of Selectmen. Status of repairs to the present structure was discussed. Town funds have been used for plans to date. Proposed layout of the building was explained. Ms. Perkins asked specific questions about the use of space in the present structure and the proposed new structure. New structure is based on the availability of funds. DPW made a lot of building corrections already. New structure will not connect to the present structure and will meet all ADA requirements. Mr. Blanchard spoke on his position and his approach to his financial concerns. Proposed building is 1360 square feet. Discussion on air quality in the present structure took place. Ms. Perkins asked about the status of the request to MCIC for funding for building improvements. Mr. Blanchard summed up what he understood from the presentation, and reiterated that the committee was willing to downsize if funding is not available. Ms. Cloutier explained that when money was requested, the committee had no input into wording; the wording would have been different if the committee had input.

Mr. Francis asked about the structural status of the present structure, Ms. Cloutier knew of no structural issues. Ms. Cloutier offered to communicate with the Finance Committee as needed and to exchange status information.

Mr. Parker addressed the committee on the role of the Finance Committee in exploring the status of the animal shelter building project. Ms. Gagnon-Elderkin answered Mr. Parker's concerns. Mr. Parker asked what the objective of the Finance Committee was, and if it has authority to ask financial questions after the appropriation was made. Ms. Francis stated that the meeting was more informational for the Finance Committee. Ms. Perkins stated that not having information ahead of time has caused some concerns on the Finance Committee. Mr. Parker agreed that the process was not followed and that the Board of Selectmen has taken steps to correct that. Ms. Perkins expressed concern that the other projects have not had accurate cost projections; the Finance Committee is

trying to prevent that in the future. Ms. McHugh explained the animal shelter building committee's position on ADA compliance at the present structure.

### Minutes

The committee reviewed the minutes of April 23, 2013; May 7, 2013; and June 10, 2013.

Moved approval of minutes of April 23, 2013 Ms. Perkins, second Ms. Krekorian (5-0)

Moved approval of minutes of May 7, 2013 Ms. Perkins, second Ms. Krekorian (5-0)

Moved approval of minutes of June 10, 2013 Ms. Perkins, second Ms. Krekorian (5-0)

### Future Meetings

Monday, July 15, 2013 @ 4:30 P.M. Town Hall Meeting Room

Moved Adjournment Ms. Krekorian, second Mr. Blanchard (5-0) 8:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

David Francis, Clerk