

Meeting Notes

February 13, 2024

Phil called the meeting to order (Via Zoom) at 6:30 p.m.

The committee unanimously approved the secretary's minutes from January 30, 2024.

In attendance: Phil Cieply, Amy Wilson-Kent, Alejna Burgos, Mark Bucchino, Anne Mazar, David Kurczy, Mike Goddard, Peg Nogueira, Karen Meade, Mike Ammendolia, Lawney Tinio and Susan Edmondson (Friends Vice President).

Invited guests were Mike Petrovick and John Ramsey from Petrovick Architects.

Phil informed the committee that he, Diane Howell and Alejna had met with Dan Byer and Anne Mazar from the Community Preservation group regarding CPA funds and possible ADA trails originating from the new site. Other enhancements could include bocce, shuffleboard and pickleball courts.

A discussion agreed upon communicating the expansion project to all the town committees. The communications committee will take the lead on this. Amy will compile a list of all organizations that use the center space. That will be our starting point.

The committee was then shown a video presentation by Mike Petrovick and John Ramsey outlining new changes to the proposed structure and cost of the Senior Community Center. We had asked them to go back and re-assess the cost and possible changes to the building. Changes they proposed included structural size (eliminating some of the storage space downstairs and moving the bathrooms), eliminating the garage, using vinyl siding, not including solar panels in this estimate and not having the road continue past the proposed building.

The committee agreed that the road should end at the senior center, to save some of that cost. The town could later expand the road as needed. Solar could possibly be added using EPA funds.

The committee questioned some of the “soft cost” (development) line items and felt that those numbers could be lowered. Mike P argued that these potential costs could go up or down. It is impossible to predict right now as we are at “schematic design” and that PM&C numbers are based on sketches. These new changes would bring down the cost by about 2 million dollars. The committee thanked John R and Mike P for their diligence.

Next, the committee looked at Jodi K’s chart of how the cost would impact the taxpayers. The average home value is \$650,000. Using ARPA funds and other ways to further reduce the debt are in ongoing discussions. For recreational activities we will try and use CPA funds. Lawney T will follow up with Sen. Fattman on money earmarked for ADA projects. The committee members will work on pursuing possible grant monies. Mike P. suggested contacting businesses in town to see if they want to donate.

Mike G. suggested that we show folks how we got to this building cost, including our efforts to cut costs. The committee asked Mike P. to send us another spreadsheet by next Monday. Phil and Peg plan to be on the Selectboard’s agenda Feb 21. The meeting adjourned at 7:27 with no date scheduled for the next meeting.

Peg Nogueira

Acting Secretary