

## **Meeting Notes Nov.14, 2023**

In attendance – Phil Cieply, Mike Goddard, Alejna Brugos, Mike Amendolia, Mark Bucchino, Amy Wilson-Kent, Chief Kurczy, Karen Slattery Meade, Diane Howell, Ann Mazur and Peg Nogueira

The Committee unanimously approved the secretary's minutes from Nov 2, 2023.

Communications Update:

Nov 24- Turkey Trot

Pamphlets were passed out at the Veterans Breakfast

Dec.1 – Santa Parade. – Pamphlets will be available to anyone who stops by the historical society for cocoa and cookies.

Karen Slattery Meade, who is an administrator of the Mendon MA Bulletin Board, was introduced to the members present and welcomed to the Communications Team of Tom F and Peg N.

If any members of the Committee have any other suggestions, please contact Tom, Peg or Karen.

Update on the 4 Property Sites

Ann M made the committee aware that there is a backlog in the State agency (Dept. of Conservation and Recreation) which approves restrictions and any changes the town may want to

make. The only cases that are taking priority are those that involve grant deadlines. Changing a conservation restriction (which is what we would need to do with the property at the corner of North Ave and Hopedale St) would be at the bottom of their list. We could be looking at 2025. After a long discussion, Alejna offered to contact the town's legal dep't and if necessary, we would contact our state senators and reps and present the problem to them. We need to make a decision soon and we need to get all the facts and current data.

Mike G suggested we come up with 2 plans (one regular plan; one contingency plan) involving the property on the corner of Rte. 16/North Ave and the property on Hopedale St/North Ave.

It was agreed that the Morrison property was no longer in contention.

It was also suggested that having one additional acre available at the current site would not be sufficient for the expansion project.

Amy spoke of the initial request for 5 acres at the present site when the town purchased the land but the Senior Center was only awarded one acre.

Phil has invited Mike P, the architect, to the Nov 28<sup>th</sup> Meeting. The design of the building needs to be reviewed. Also we want the architect's opinion of both sites.

Phil hopes to bring the committee's recommendation to the Selectboard in early December.

Phil is setting up weekly phone conversations/zoom calls with the architect to let him know of the committee's issue

The next committee meeting will be on Tuesday Nov. 28 at 6:30. The meeting place will be at the police station and the agenda will be emailed beforehand.

Meeting Adjourned.

Peg Nogueira

Acting Secretary