

Minutes of Ad-Hoc Community Center Committee  
May 7, 2014, 7 pm  
Suffield Town Hall, Lower Conference Room

Present:

Leeayn Burke, Beth Chafetz, John Cloonan, Krystal Holmes, Wendy LaMontagne, Patrick McMahon, Tim Reynolds, Joe Sangiovanni, Gloria Smith, Michael Stevens, Joanne Sullivan. Plus other members of the public. Michael Stevens called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

Identify desired goals

There was much discussion in regards to the goal of this committee. The group decided the goal of the committee was to investigate and formulate a solid proposal for the repurposing of Bridge Street School into a community center.

Identified 4 milestones to help meet the goal:

Milestone #1

- Determine uses and options of community center - Wendy
- Develop business plan and conduct needs assessment - Wendy
- Investigate with architect through DPW costs of new building on current site. Also investigate possible expansion costs with renovation of existing building. - John
- Look into soil test for hazardous materials in the soil. - John

Group discussed that this first milestone is laying the groundwork to prove the concept of a community center at Bridge Street location.

Milestone #2

- Review the cost of abatement, have contractors provide actual estimates for services – John
- Review cost estimate from architect for renovation – John and Joe

Milestone #3

- Confirm the cost estimate with Permanent Building Commission – Joe & John
- Build public support of project – Beth/Krystal
- Identify options to funding the project – ACCE, BOF and BOS members
- Goal to have proposal go to town meeting at this stage.

Milestone #4

- Referendum

Discussed that there are private funds to be raised and grant opportunities available that we will apply for.

Group identified that extra funds would be necessary for next steps forward like soil tests and further architect input and design. Group decided that \$30,000 would be manageable to meet these goals and milestones. The group will either see if there is any remaining money left in present departments in the current fiscal year or make an appeal to the BOF.

In conclusion the group will work on each of the identified tasks for milestone 1. Michael Stevens will provide an update to the BOF on Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup> about the status of the Ad-Hoc Community Center Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Next Meeting is Tuesday, June 3, 2014 at 7 pm, location to be confirmed

Minutes prepared by Krystal Holmes