

Town Hall Study Committee Minutes

April 1, 2003

Present: Ken Knowlton, Norma Patten, Linda Frawley, Jeff Marden, Doralyn Harper, Candance Daigle

Ken Knowlton began the meeting at 7:00 pm reviewing as an introduction the alternatives to addressing the space needs of town hall. The first option discussed was renovation to the present town hall. Thoughts of expanding to the upstairs were briefly discussed sharing concerns of structural integrity (roof and flooring support) and handicap accessibility.

The second option discussed by the committee was incorporating the Gale School into a new town facility. Questions of feasibility and cost of moving were discussed along with it's historical value. The discussion turned to a new town hall where style and design was considered. Grant application considerations were introduced to the discussion and future DOT changes were touched on.

David Morse mentioned incorporating a step process of reviewing the town hall options where we gather and summarize existing conditions, departmental future needs, potential option analysis and finally recommendations.

Linda Frawley, indicated successful grant applications were tied to the larger concept of community development for funding where an interconnection of projects have a stronger potential for block grants. She felt bringing in professionals such as architects was helpful to the committee's future success. Ken and Linda discussed the option of having a charrette with professionals and the public.

Candance Daigle indicated each town department was asked to project their respected needs when developing the square footage. Linda Frawley inquired if there was a build out factor available for the town.

Ken Knowlton reviewed the renovations over time of the current town hall and inquired the needs and cost associated with renovating the existing town hall to meet the needs of space. Ken requested we get the town's information on file at the town of the current and new town hall as drafted recently.

Jeff Marden reiterated discussion of the big picture impact to the village district of this project and expanded the scope of the considerations to the village district.

Norma Patten wanted this committee to be visible to the community by having an article in the Belmont Better Times published as well as progress reports to the public.

The next meeting is at the Belmont Public Library on Thursday May 1, 2003 at 7:00 pm. The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:50 pm.

Respectively submitted

David Morse

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