

Town Hall Study Committee Minutes

May 1, 2003

Present: Ken Knowlton, Norma Patten, Linda Frawley, Jeff Marden, Ron Mitchell, Niki Wheeler, Doralyn Harper, Donald McLelland and Candance Daigle

Ken Knowlton began the meeting at 7:00 pm by passing out an agenda titled Town Hall Study Group- Next Steps. In addition, Ken gave a brief introduction from the last meeting to the new members of the committee regarding the options being discussed at this time. He also stated the desire of the committee to have all the options presented to the public under a future charrette.

Don McLelland indicated some discussion to occur with the SAU regarding combining town hall with the SAU. It was disclosed at this time Rick Ball was assigned to attend for the selectmen to the school district's future facilities committee.

Discussion of the committee moved to having an engineering study performed on the existing town hall. The discussion revolved around cost versus results. Options of level of engineering services were reviewed in an attempt to limit costs.

Ron Mitchell reviewed the history and current state of town hall, as he has been aware of. He felt the boiler is inadequate. The floor load was sufficient but had significant concerns of load and fatigue limits to the roof. The result of this concern may make the renovations to the current town hall cost prohibitive. Parking and safety codes were reviewed and found to be generally poor on both counts.

The committee requested the town consider getting a roofing engineer to review and report on the state of the current town hall.

Linda Frawley inquired on information available on growth that the committee could use to determine needs.

Discussion of available grants was discussed. Linday Frawley reviewed a list of grants that could be applied for that included LCHIP, CDFA, USDA and other support.

David Morse indicated he was waiting to hear from the architect that worked on the Gale School to discuss feasibility of moving and incorporating additional space to the building.

The committee reviewed it's scope regarding expanding it's review to the village district. The committee decided not to implement any limits as of yet and to wait and see how things progressed.

The next meeting is at the Belmont Public Library on Thursday May 22, 2003 at 7:00 pm. The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:20 pm.

Respectively submitted

David Morse

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