

**Charrette Follow-up Committee Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 25, 2023**

Members present: Maggie Stier, Suzanne Ryan, Vaune Dugan, Kathy Barnard, Dan Schandel, Roger Murray, Kathy Fairman, and Linda Murray. Recording Secretary Amy Capone Muccio

Chairman Stier opened the meeting at 10:00 AM

1. Acceptance of minutes December 8, 2022

It was moved by Suzanne Ryan and seconded by Vaune Dugan to accept the minutes of December 8, 2022, as submitted. Members voted all in favor, the motion passed.

2. List of possible uses and/or users of a community center

Ms. Fairman provided a list of possible uses and a list of possible users of a multi-use community center. The Committee will need to review this list and determine who and what groups or non-profits would use it and break down the list even further.

Ms. Stier stated this is a good list to start with and an excellent resource for moving forward.

Mrs. Murray noted that one of the drivers of the downtown location was the accessibility for seniors. She noted that the Nick also has a recreation facility plan and there is Pop Whalen use in the off season.

Ms. Ryan stated they will need to know what the driver is, the cost and goal for the use.

Ms. Dugan replied that this area was discussed as the location and the goal should be to determine this as a multi-use facility.

Ms. Fairman disagrees and feels they can have many drivers and that there can be some cross over spaces like Pop Whalen.

Ms. Stier stated that the goal of the Charette Committee was this area because it is downtown.

Ms. Dugan volunteered to do an overview of both buildings on Lehner Street (MED and Community Center) of the square footage and what could be done there.

Ms. Ryan stated she feels they also need to know what happens and what the State will require once they starting digging up that site. She would like to see the Board of Selectmen take the lead on that.

Mrs. Murray replied she believes the Electric Department already has the plans on that part, but she will follow up with the Board and the Town Manager on the status of the well monitoring sites and what that would look like with NH DES.

Ms. Ryan stated that she would like to focus on something attainable, that can be done by this Committee, which could be the Foss Field path and the connection to the Bridge Falls path.

Ms. Dugan agreed that would be a good project to focus on and there will be the lighting project, could they incorporate this with that and even prep the site for a future lighting project.

Ms. Fairman noted this would be a good focus because with Hunter's closed this summer it is likely that many boaters will need to walk the path to Harvest Market.

Mr. Murray noted that the Master Plan supports the connection of those two paths.

The Committee agreed working on the path would be a good project to work on.

Mrs. Murray stated she will take this information back to the Board for discussion.

Ms. Stier stated she is aware of two grant funding options for this project, one is a CDFA planning grant for community facilities for up to \$25,000. She stated there are some requirements for the grant but questioned if the Committee would be interested in a zoom meeting to get further specifics as a possible option to offset some planning costs. The second is a grant from AARP.

The Committee agreed they would like to explore the grant options further.

3. Foss Field Parking lot

Mr. Schandel stated he has been working on a concept plan that he will get out to the Committee to review, but it is a idea on how to create a better flow from the Foss Field walking path through the parking lot to Harvest Market area.

Ms. Stier suggested he forward that so the committee can review and discuss it further at the next meeting.

Mr. Murray questioned the status of the playground ideas.

Ms. Stier noted they may want to seek input from the Parks and Recreation Department on the idea proposed at a previous meeting.

Ms. Barnard noted that there is a rebuild of the Community Playground at Carpentier in the works.

4. Railroad Station

Ms. Dugan stated after the last meeting she sent the old plans she had done (from the 1990's) for bathroom upgrade. She noted there is potential to make the space more usable.

Ms. Fairman suggested that they expand the bathrooms and move the playground, maybe along the trail somewhere. The bathrooms are long overdue for an upgrade, and they are used a lot.

Ms. Stier agreed, she likes the bathrooms in a separate building concept and relocating the playground. She questioned if this a project on the CIP.

Mrs. Murray replied that there needs to be some work done on the out years of the CIP, it is not there now.

Ms. Fairman noted that during the EDC Business Summer recap the topic of these restrooms came up and an upgrade/expansion is needed. It makes sense since this is the location of the Chamber of Commerce and the Information Center.

Ms. Ryan stated this is a valuable downtown location and needs to be addressed to expand the usage.

5. Next Meeting Date -2/22/2023 @ 10 AM Great Hall

Being no further business, the Committee adjourned at 11:13 AM.

It was moved by Suzanne Ryan and seconded by Linda Murray to adjourn, all in favor, the motion passed.