

Minutes November 7, 2019

Fire Department Facility Advisory Committee

Present: Tom Finnegan (Committee Chairman), Harry Nelson, Graham Gitchell, Bob Bartlett, Scott Talbot, Clyde Simino, Wes Staples, Randall Walter and Mike Petrovick

Meeting convened at 7:00 pm

Minutes from the September 24 and October 17 meetings were read, and accepted on a motion by Graham Gitchell which was seconded by Harry Nelson.

Clyde started the conversation with a question regarding the issue surrounding the seventh bay. Graham clarified that that item was lower on the list and had been suggested by townspeople who had attended the information night. He also expressed an opinion of shortsightedness when it came to limiting the suggested office space, as expectations for both the EMS and EOC officers are increasing, making for a greater work load. Randal responded, explaining that he would collect input and come up with solutions that were cost-based and practical. He would present not only plans, but rationale for the plans.

From there, Randall proceeded to introduce Mike Petrovick to those present and thank the committee for placing their trust in him. His work will begin by determining a strategy and create a schedule for the committee for meetings. The information handout which lists the need/wants of the committee will form the basis of his design work. Starting with tonight's meeting, successive meetings will be held bi-weekly at the Town Hall, starting at 4:30 p.m.

Randall's goal tonight is to be sure we understand his process. He referred to the site plan C-6, inquired about the involvement of the town Conservation Commission, and explained how he had brought Mike on board with his team at Bensonwood with his integrated design team (all in house – a scientist who specializes in sustainability, a structural engineer who deals in both steel and wood, and two associate designers), discussing what he knew and what they were hired to do, and they had done a site overview using Google satellite. When Graham asked Mike for his opinion of the wants/needs list, Randall explained that the building was a multi-purpose building and that using programming, he and Mike would be looking at the sizing issues. Randall also mentioned the issue of out of town coverage and its implications for the design.

Other parties involved:

- SVE has electronically transferred all site work plans to Randall's team.
- BOS will be looking into the issue of sharing the septic system with the town hall.
- The Conservation Commission can make recommendations, but the DES has final say.
- The Planning Board will review plans for impact in the area.
- The DOT has concerns regarding the site on route 63.

Tom brought up the issue of ADA compliance. Randall explained that the building will have universal access. Also, building codes in general are fair at best, and he does not want to limit choices on certain things. The Fire Marshall will inspect for NFPA codes.

Mike discussed the work as being a process of education. With transparency, everyone is brought to the table. Guidelines exist and the numbers will tell the story, making rumors go away.

Wes reiterated that approval from DES is important.

Randall plans to send meeting agendas to the BOS in advance of meetings, to keep them up to date. In addition, occasional attendance at BOS meetings will happen to keep them apprised.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel Bartlett

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