

# Public Facilities Master Plan Steering Committee

Tuesday, March, 19, 2013

Council on Aging, Brook St. -7:00 p.m.

## Minutes:

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. and the following members were present: Karen Pritchard, At-Large, Doug Anderson, At-Large, Paul Scott, At-Large, Bill Johnston, School Committee Representative, Richard Hebert, School Committee Representative, William Blake, Recreation, Mary Ellen Gaziano, Library, Bill Limbacher, Planning, Marla Minier, Library, Richard Mitchell, Council on Aging, Jacqueline Carr, Public Building Commission Jen Morrison, At-Large, Pam Davis, COA, Kevin Kelly, Facilities Director. Richard Judge, Fire Chief, Brian Stewart, Police Chief, Floreence Choate, Director for Council on Aging.

Excused: Patricia Vinchesi, Town Administrator, Richard Murray, Board of Selectmen,

Request was made for all to introduce themselves. Handouts were distributed for presentations of current conditions at the Police Station, Fire Station and Council on Aging.

### **Chief Stewart presented a report of current conditions, risks, issues and challenges at the Police station, and the Department..**

Following his report Committee members asked Chief Stewart:

- Is a Rehab of the current facilities better than a new Facility? **Chief reiterated that the station was constructed 54 years ago and seriously deficient by today's standards.**
- What was the size of the force in 1959? **CS: probably bigger but the way of policing was very different.**
- Are we currently deficient in code issues? **CS: Some current conditions with the cells need to be addressed and the insurance company has some safety concerns.**
- What is the square foot cost to build new as opposed to re-hab the existing station? \_\_\_\_\_
- Would there be savings associated with a new facility? \_\_\_\_\_
- Are there new state standards or current examples of new police stations? **CS: yes and some examples were given.**
- Are there examples of other towns with new facilities, which have shown improved response time? \_\_\_\_\_
- Did Cell inspections result in a fine? **CS: No**
- Are there new state or national standards? **CS: Yes.**
- Can we provide a list of what improvements there would be? **CS: Page 3 of the handout shows a list of improvements.**
- What improvements are needed on a regulatory level? \_\_\_\_\_
- How many prisoners do you have annually? **CS: About 300**

## **Chief Judge presented a report of current conditions, risks, issues and challenges at Station 3, and the Department:**

Following his report, committee members asked Chief Judge the following:

- Is 3A the optimal Location? **CJ: A study was done several years ago and showed that Country Way and Hollett Street area were Optimal. However, the current proposed location on is also optimal and more than adequately addresses current response time challenges.**
- Do the fire trucks fit? **CJ: With Modifications most of the engines fit. Not a ladder truck.**
- Inquiry about a regional dispatch? **Chiefs Judge and Stewart addressed the pros and cons of such. Noting that there are challenges with current local, regional dispatch centers.**
- Lot of people wondering why we are spending money on this side of town and not in Humarock? **CJ/KMK: Response time and there are plans currently being developed to address the Humarock station issues; through the capital budget process?**
- Where did the value of \$4.5 million come from? \_\_\_\_\_
- We would like to see the proposal from Durkee Brown? \_\_\_\_\_

## **Florence Choate, the director for the council on Aging, presented a report of current conditions, issues and challenges at The COA**

Following her report, committee members discussed the following:

- Pam Davis: There are problems and concerns with going to Gates. Parking is a key concern.
- How was a feasibility study for the COA completed without all current information from COA? \_\_\_\_\_
- How many square feet desired for proposed program?
- Would like to see opportunities for intergenerational interaction.
- How many square feet are slated for COA at Gates? **11,000 sq'.**
- What would COA do if they had their own site?
- There was an potential 10,000 sq' building in back of the Library? What happened to that? ?
- Town authorized 2.4 million in 2004 to borrow for COA? \_\_\_\_\_
- Could a modular building be done? \_\_\_\_\_
- Problem with going to Gates and Parking?
- Parking a huge issue?
- How many parking spaces are proposed? Codes will dictate numbers.
- Is there a "plan B", if COA does not go to Gates? \_\_\_\_\_

- There are problems with the Hingham center, co-existing with other town functions at the same site?
- How many people use the facility each day? **FC: used fairly well but specific to task or events only...no "drop-ins" due to location, set -up and parking.**

. The proposed tour for the town hall complex was discussed and scheduled for Tuesday March 26 @ 6:30p, commencing in the Selectmen's room. Efforts will be made to provide video-taping. Members wishing to tour but un-able to participate March 26; a separate tour may be scheduled.

Next proposed meeting is for April 23, 2013. Location TBD. The agenda for the next meeting will discuss proposed plans for the Gates School.

Meeting concluded with a tour of Council on Aging.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Kevin M. Kelly  
Recorder