

Public Facilities Master Plan Steering Committee
Tuesday, Tuesday, October 22, 2013
Town Hall / Selectman's chambers - 7:00 p.m.

Minutes:

The meeting was called to order at 7: 10p.m. and the following members were present: Karen Pritchard, Chair; Richard Hebert, School Committee; Maryellen Gaziano, Library; Richard Mitchell, Council on Aging; Bill Limbacher, Planning; Kevin Kelly, Facilities; Ann Burbine, EDC, Rick Murray, Selectman Liaison, Robin LaVirne.

Welcome and update areview hardd review by K. Pritchard.

Updates: (see attached)

Gates- School Fesabilitiy -

R Laverne- School update- OPM Hired, gates walkthrough two weeks ago, 11 proposal from Architect's, reviews by committee next week and meet with MSBA, to accept architect. Nov 5 hire, hopefully go forward with MSBA feasibility study. Hopefully study done by March.

Public Safety complex:

Got 10 responses to RFS, 4 finalists next week. 3 sites are being looked at.

Gates School as Town hall/ Senior / Rec Center:

No real update until we know what MSBA results are. We have time as MSBA results will take 3 years to unfold. R .Murray speak toward possible CPC funds to help with potential renovations. An application to earmark funs will be submitted by Nov 1.

Library (12,000,000 with 7,000,000 town / 5,000,000 grant:

Special town mtg. Article 12. (Nov 4), consensus seems to be 5 mil. from state to put toward Library. Towns people will decide. If passed on Nov 4. Special election ballot on Dec 14. Library hopes to raise 2million. Could be a 5 year fundraising campaign. Lot of logistics if this goes forward. Library would have to move out. New plan has much better use of space; taking advantage of underutilized spaces. Timing of Library project is challenging with all the other things potentially happening in town. The Library is the only group who has money in hand from the Sate right now. We loose that by Dec 31 if voted town.

KP: However, we could maybe provide 2 million to renovate space if article fails as opposed to getting 5 mil from State and 7 mil from town.

PAV: Library had its act together and meet requirements of the State and went quicker than anticipated.

We are where we need to be and Selectman Harris will present a report to the floor on Nov. 4, of all the scenarios with all buildings in play right now.

Scituate Harbor Community Building:

Us restriction filed. Met in town Today with Rep Cantwell and DOT. Building use is difficult with current restrictions. Want more flexibility. Dot will report to their constituents

COA. Richard stated that there is a lot of concern by the senior community that the current space allocated has been downsized.

PAV, states that there has been no real downsizing. It is conceptual to see if various elements can be put into space.

Seniors need re-assurance that space for them will be adequate.

Seniors have gotten standard from state of what a Council on Aging should be.

RM: Conceptual yes but it will just not fit/

PAV: there was no approval of the drawing.

RM: Decisions made or perceived have made seniors' un-comfort able

Rick: Who do we need to get inform of to close this information gap.

Richard: Not a lot of trust; want to see something concrete to address their fears.

MM- finds it disheartening as the seniors or being shortsighted toward not supporting anything.

Richard: concerns are taxes, fixed incomes, we should of put together a package and sat with people on what the information.

AGB: This is what this committee is for; we should use the insight of this committee to adequately share this information.

Richard: No not the purpose of the committee. They should be raising concerns and issues.

Rick : a meeting should be had with these seniors that have concerns. To listen and re-assure them. The Gates renovation includes discussion first for the Senior Center, so this is a little concerning as to why they do not know that?

JCarr: Original Plans were presented as rough drawings.

Richard: Upset that the process does not work. Yes saying that the space is not big enough.

PAV: A lot of the Senior Concerns have been addressed.

They do not need a Cadillac. They are just concerned with the shortage of space.

PAV: We need to verify what the actual space is.

Richard: Groups have compiled some benchmarking information for what other communities are doing?

Rick: Not always right to just build by square footage. Yes, many aspects of the center need to separate. But it is OK to share some space.

PAV: How do we address their concern?

KP: a lot of the issue is programming as opposed to square feet.

Richard- 1 of the last 20 senior centers were not "free-standing"

BL: They are a large block and they vote.

Rick: Must be built around functionality.

PAV: COA challenge is they do not really know because the center is so inadequate now.

MM: Can we do this quickly; so all concerns are addressed.

AB: There are a lot of seniors who do not want this. There are other parts to all this. It crosses all demographics.

By Nov 4, is not doable but before Dec 14 we can have a meeting with the small group of seniors.

Review of Checklist of Question list: (Guessing of what towns' people may ask?).
Discussion over stand-alone vs. consolidated.

Do the Selectman have the information to go with what is being proposed?

A lot of things on the ballot that are expensive to address the needs (Water, Sea wall, foreshore)

Back of the envelope is looking at 83 Million: + 583 per year; per dwelling

Richard: Seniors do not think Gates is feasible. Getting something passed is going to be difficult. We don't really have a master Plan. We have a collection of ideas.

AGB: we need to let the school scenario play out. Lot of difficult logistics to make this all work. Too many moving parts. Town needs to communicate their plan. Right now there is nothing to sell.

AGB: Lets address the disconnects. They seniors want to be heard. They feel burned.

Richard: just meeting with them tell them there is nothing on the table or at least meet with them. Get them together to just talk is not a good idea?

AB: There are architectural plans to do a senior Center at Central park. Plan still exists.

KP: Still here at the end for the day, transparency is important.

Rick: Selectman frustrated that they feel like they reach out.

Richard: there has been no real reach out in the last two years.

Again, we really do not know where all things will go. Sheet does address alternative costs.

Facility Assessment will be done by February,

Meet with seniors (PAV, Two Selectman, half dozen seniors).

Work on facility assessment while this group, breaks until MSBA decision comes out.

VIBRACATED.

1.) Review of meeting minutes:

- Voted and approved

2.) Report on Department interviews:

3. Review of submitted "Community Questions" and next steps

4.) Administrative Items:

Vote, second and approve to Adjourn 8:35p

KMK 8/27/13