

Expansion Committee Minutes March 28, 2019

Shelburne Falls Senior Center
7 Main St, Shelburne Falls, Ma 01370
(413)625-2502
March 28, 2019

Present- Doug Field, Eric Temple, Steve Zamojski, Suzanne Bishop, Carl Satterfield, Michael McCusker, Zack Turner, Sylvia Smith, Penny Spearance, Cathy Buntin, Jackie Walsh, George Dole, Pam Kelleher
Meeting CTO-6:00 pm

Minutes of February 28, 2019. Corrections noted and accepted.

Treasurer- Sue

Initial Annual Budget is being assembled. -see attached

No unusual expenses. 1 invoice from Jones Whitsett-\$ 1975.00 approved.

Discussion about voting for billing approval. A motion to vote on each invoice we receive prior to paying.
Approved unanimously.

Payment amended to include prior invoice from 1/31/19 as well as the 3/25/19 invoice above.

Ownership- Penny

There are 2 main topics to tackle. The committee is investigating both.

1- Capitol apportionment ideas, using equalized valuation.

2- Even split among towns.

At this time the committee is leaning towards equalized valuation.

Research is ongoing to see how this would impact members.

Discussion regarding criteria used for choosing Project Manager.

Site Committee- Doug

Open Forum overview.- Zeroing in on information we collected.

Discussion of rankings, surveys, and community response.

Based on this review, a recommendation was made to the full expansion committee to drop the other 3 contenders at this time, and focus our efforts and budget on the Arms location.

This led into a discussion about the design, and it was decided at this time, the work will shift from the site committee to the design committee.

This design committee hopes to appoint 1 member from Trinity Church, one from The Historical Society, and one from the Recreation committee. We hope to add a member at large from the community. We are looking for more members.

Discussion followed regarding how we survey the larger community, why we are dropping the other 3 properties, and how to handle the PR going forward.

Also brought up was how we came to choose the Arms lot.

A motion was made to move forward on option A- The Arms lot, and retain the other sites if needed.

Motion received 2 no's (Jackie Walsh and Zack Turner) the motion was carried.

Next steps- Cathy, Sylvia and Steve will work to establish Design members.
At this time, Eric Temple is stepping down from the site committee. We thank him for his efforts.

Funding/Budgeting-Carl

There are 2 topics to address. Operating Budget, and Business management. We will address misc supplies later.

Discussion about Town Meetings. We don't want to overwhelm with too much information.

ID the critical 3 or 4 points, so member towns know what is going on.

Building costs go up 5-8% annually, so a 5 year delay could cost up to 40% more than current estimates.

Discussion regarding annual contributions from member towns.

The fact that our committee can move faster than municipal committees is something we need to account for.

No update of the Community grant yet.

The fundraising company is beginning to interview "influencers" in town. They anticipate that by June we could have a good idea of our fund raising capabilities.

The legislators have received letters of support for the project. Although there was no funding for senior centers in the proposed budget, now is when they will try to get it into the budget with an amendment.

We may know by July if there will be some available funding.

There is some potential in the Block Grants. We are a good candidate as long as our purpose is only as a senior center. There may be as much as 1.3 million dollars to tap into. All 3 towns can apply.

PR- Sylvia

Discussion about flyers at the various transfer stations.

Design- not met yet, but forming now.

Discussion about the first/next steps. These include design guidelines, a site survey, approx.. costs to be researched.

Motion made to give Jones Whitsett approval to do site survey, and set aside up to \$7500.00 to complete.

Votes - 1 no (Jackie Walsh), the rest yes. Motion carries.

Foundation-

Philanthropic Resources will be meeting with foundation to identify influencers and potential donors.

Upcoming meetings:

Site-on hold

Design-TBD

Ownership-April 8, 2:30 SC

PR-TBD

Finance/budget- Greenfield Savings Bank-April 2-10:00

Next Expansion meeting- April 25. 6:00 SC

Meeting adjourned 7:42 p.m.

respectfully submitted,

Joanne Soroka