New Library Study Committee
Municipal Office Complex
Meeting Room 3
May 25, 2022
Special Meeting Minutes

Members Present: I Haines, W Barney, J Bielot, M Callahan, E Dillon, J Leatherbee, M Lehmacher, M Mazur, C McCarthy, R Parady
Also present: D Barlow, L Ziemienski

Call to Order - First Selectman Haines called the New Library Study Committee meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and the attendees said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Introduction of Members –

- Marissa Lemacher
- John Bielot
- James Leatherbee
- William Barney
- Elizabeth Dillon
- Michael Callahan
- Ralph Parady
- Clare McCarthy
- Mary Mazur

Explanation of Process – First Selectman Haines reviewed that the town has two libraries that are not ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliant and either the buildings must be modified to be compliant or another option (reuse of another existing building or building of a new facility) would need to be recommended.

New Business –

a) Appointment of Chairman
    i) Motion made nominating William Barney as Chairman made by E Dillon and 2nd by M Callahan. Approved by unanimous consent.
b) Appointment of Vice-Chairman
    i) Motion made nominating Marissa Lemacher made by M Callahan and 2nd by John Bielot. Approved by unanimous consent.
c) Appointment of Secretary
    i) Motion made nominating John Bielot as Secretary made by William Barney and 2nd by M Lemacher. Approved by unanimous consent.
d) Discussion of Meeting Schedule and Location
    i) Brief discussion of the meeting schedule occurred led by William Barney as the charter for the committee requires the committee to report their findings in 180 days. It was decided to schedule regular meetings on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday moving forward.

        - June 8th & 22nd
        - July 13th & 27th
        - August 10th & 24th
        - September 14th & 28th

- October 12th & 26th
- November 9th

ii) Meeting room 3 at the MOC (Municipal Office Complex) is the most available meeting room and was suggested by First Selectman Haines as a suitable meeting room as it is the easiest to enable the Zoom recording.

iii) There was a brief discussion of handout material distributed and the committee charge. The town hired Fellner Associates to review the two libraries approximately 5 years ago, specifically to determine the issues related to lack of ADA compliance. They generated reports for each of the buildings which contained cost estimates for the improvements.

The First Selectman suggested that the committee look at the unused space in the basement of the MOC. A question was raised asking how large the space is? The information is known but not readily available. A tour of the basement will be planned for the next meeting. At the next Meeting, the Fellner Associates documents will be discussed.

A question was raised asking what other town owned properties might be available. A discussion ensued regarding the town space across from the Gelston House and the space behind the old Town Hall and Grange. Other locations investigated have issues with wetlands or ledge.

A YouTube video recording of the meeting is available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fo6lXRWnimM.

Audience of Citizens –

Dawn Barlow, Chair of the Library Board of Trustees discussed the upcoming Community Discussion being held on June 1st at the Rathbun and pledged the support of the Board of Trustees to this committee.

Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 8:06 PM

Respectfully submitted,

John Bielot, Secretary