

## **Minutes of the Municipal Building Committee**

January 28, 2015, 5pm Whately Historical Society Meeting Room

Members present: Chair, Paul Newlin, Virginia Allis, Adelia Bardwell, Jonathan Edwards, Anita Husted, Judy Markland, and Fred Orloski. Also present were John Goodrich of MOPC, Mark Pruhenski and Paul Antaya.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved unanimously.

Paul turned the meeting over to John Goodrich to discuss the February 7 town-wide meeting. John explained that his intent is to spend about 30 minutes with an introduction (explanation of the process and a brief summary of what has been learned to date) and then to break up in small group discussions (30 minutes), presentations by the group facilitators (20 minutes) to the entire group, followed by a general discussion, and summary and outline of next steps by John in the remaining time. The introduction and summaries would be in the auditorium and small group discussions in the cafeteria (and library, if necessary). Eight facilitators will be available for the group discussions and, hopefully, one MBC member will be at each table as a resource person.

There was discussion about the availability of the auditorium. Mark agreed to check and notify the MBC as soon as possible.

The group discussed the options to be discussed on Saturday, with John recommending two based upon the process to date: purchase of the library with the town hall to be used as a community center, and a less expensive plan for town offices in town hall.

Paul Antaya stressed that it is important to start with an estimated tax increase that the town is likely to approve, say \$150/year, and design options that will fit within that. Judy said that there is too much uncertainty about the cost of the options at this point to commit to dollar figures. John Goodrich indicated that it would be possible to indicate that those undertaking the option analyses would be asked to attempt to keep the costs within a reasonable figure. As Virginia had recommended earlier, it was agreed that tax figures would be given in quarterly amounts, not annual.

John outlined the questions to be posed to the small group discussions:  
What option do you prefer and what option do you think the town can approve?  
What do you think the next steps should be?  
And, if there's time, what is your preferred outcome of the process?

Anita distributed an outline of the Historical Society's activities and space needs as a resource for the meeting.

Mark will do a Robo call announcing the Feb 7 session and the special town meeting early next week. Adelia and Fred will set up the lettering on the moveable signs and set them out.

The next meeting is scheduled for 5pm on Thursday, February 12.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judy Markland

Documents referenced at the meeting and in the committee's files:

“MOPC summary of recommended options and questions to answer”, January 29, 2015

“Whately Historical Society Background and Needs”, January 2015