

Library Exploratory Committee Meeting
Cornish Town Office
Cornish, NH 03745
DRAFT of Library Exploratory Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 19, 2022 6:30 PM

Members Present: All Present

Members Absent: None

Public Present: Four members of the public attended in person

Public Present via Zoom: None

Proposed agenda accepted.

Minutes of the previous meeting were not available at this time.

Previously, Kathy Patterson had presented her work done to assess the short comings of the previous MAKE design done and to highlight the advantages of being able to include additional upgrades when thinking of the design of the store building remodel.

Sue Chandler had pointed out that she had previously asked for this work to be discussed so there is a good foundation for needs to be included in any building upgrades being looked at by the committee.

All committee members had previously been given a copy. They stated that they still had them.

Heidi Jaarsma went over the rough draft of the finished report document that she had presented at a previous meeting. There was discussion as to how to go about adding information and when to that document. It was generally assumed that as information becomes available, it will be added in as necessary in order to have as much accurate information as possible in the final version.

Laura Cousineau asked Larry Dingee to describe what had transpired with his meeting with the Selectmen in regard to the MAKE proposal. He stated that he had met with the Selectmen following Town Meeting and requested that they approve the proposal for Phase 1 work, as outlined in the MAKE proposal, and to do so without requiring the project to be put out to bid. His reasoning was that MAKE had done the previous work for the Library Trustees so it seems appropriate for them to continue the project with the updated design now that the Town was going ahead with the purchase of the additional property needed for the septic system.

A committee was created to interact with MAKE made up of Larry Dingee, Dillon Gallagher, Caroline Storrs, Stephanie McAndrew (Town Librarian) and possibly Richard Scheuer (Library Trustee). Either Laura Cousineau or Kathy Patterson will contact Richard to determine his willingness to participate, they will report back with his answer.

Heidi stated that she had not received the written report from Tom Ladd, consultant hired to go over the existing library with eye to handicap accessibility. However, there seems to be a fairly good understanding of what work would need to be done to improve accessibility in the existing structure.

Caroline Storrs suggested that a sub-committee be put together to plan for the community forum to be held in July. It was decided that Heidi Jaarsma and Laura Cousineau would handle that job.

It was stated that the sub-committee working on guidelines and activities that would be allowed at the proposed community center in the store building would meet Friday, April 22nd. They would report back at the next meeting.

Heidi presented a Power Point presentation of what she had learned from her research in regard to ADA requirements in library buildings, paying particular attention to what the “20% rule” means and how it effects the projects being talked about.

Heidi also presented which she had learned of the requirements in regards to the existing Library Capital Reserve Fund. She had been in contact with the Charitable Trust folks and learned that the existing fund is only able to be used on the GH Stowell library building. Any changes to that would require a Town Meeting vote.

Larry passed out a list that he had prepared of what are the potential goals that need to be considered in any updated designs done by MAKE. He asked everyone in the room to get back to him if they had anything that needed to be added.

Heidi asked if a report could be put together to show what types of programs are presently being done at the library.

Caroline inquired whether it would make sense to ask for another meeting with the State Librarian.

Next meeting to be May 10, 2022 at 6:30 PM.