

Enhancement Committee Minutes

March 16, 2017

Members Present: Lynn Goldberg, Martha Aasen, Stan Nayer.

Excused: Jo Fuchs-Luscombe, Gloria Stashower, Mildred Bunche, Leslie Wolf.

Guests: Don Bergman.

Ex-Officio: Susan Pfister, Steve Smith, Sarah Heath.

Lynn called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Martha Aasen made a motion to accept the minutes which Lynn Goldberg seconded. There was no discussion, so the minutes were accepted unanimously.

Steve reported that A.P. Construction has been hard at work as the selected Construction Manager for this contract. They are working with the understanding they will be officially hired when the project goes in front of the BOF for funding approval. The project as originally stated is over budget. Numerous construction managers have verified and confirmed that the original cost estimator's numbers were not realistic. The footprint will most likely have to be reduced to meet budget and the committee and Brian's team are hard at work trying to problem-solve. The site work and parking aspect of the project are both very expensive propositions. It was reiterated the importance of the Center trying to operate as "normal" as possible during construction.

The concept of prevailing wage was discussed and Don said there is some chatter in Hartford about addressing this issue.

It was agreed that Sue, Lynn, Sarah and possible Steve will meet with Jim ASAP to update him on the constraints this project has and how it has really impacted the budget. They will also inquire about whether or not the April 5th BOF mtg. is appropriate or not. Sue believed it was the same meeting where folks can ask for restorations.

Don raised a question about the 5% contingency and Steve thought that was reasonable given the fact that this is a renovation/remodel and not all new construction.

The location of the emergency access road was re-visited and Sue was to look into whether or not the access across from the Women's Club is in the flood zone. The sense was that it was.

The ZBA meeting was scheduled for March 28th but their last meeting was cancelled due to the snow so that agenda will most likely carry over to the 28th meaning we will be pushed back.

Lynn suggested that we revisit the Enhancement Committee summary/findings and consult with the leaders of each research group to make sure they feel that their findings are being addressed. This needs to happen sooner rather than later.

Once the date is finalized for the BOF meeting, Sue will place a table in the lobby with contact information for participants to contact members and she will also have sample letters. Sue stressed the importance of having folks in attendance at this meeting.

There has been no word from the State Bond Commission other than that the past couple of month's meetings have been cancelled. We're not optimistic about receiving any funding from the State due to their current financial situation.

If you missed today's meeting, please consider writing a letter stating what the Center means to you or to the community of Westport. You can hand them to Sue or email them to the Board of Finance. Sue has all email addresses.

Motion to adjourn: S. Nayer/M. Aasen.

Next meeting date: March 30, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Golberg