

Barons South Committee
February 26, 2014

Present:

Steve Daniels
Martha Hauhuth
Ken Bernhard
Yvonne Senturia
Jo Fuchs Luscombe
Rob Haroun
Rev Ed Horne
John Thompson
Avi Kaner
Matt Mandell

Absent:

Sharon Rosen

Meeting called to order at 9:40 by Martha Hauhuth.

MH turned meeting over to AK for update.

Avi Kaner (AK): Administration fully committed and view this project as partnership between town and developer to develop a class A facility commensurate with quality expected for Westport. Extremely close to financial agreement. Paul Fria has been instrumental in work on the escalator component of the financial agreement. Executive session with Board of Finance (Wed March 5th at 7:00pm) to go over financial component, then finalize memorandum of understanding. The memorandum of understanding will then go to the board of selectmen for a vote. The public will be invited to comment during that meeting.

Land component: need to finalize exactly where the 2 acres of open space in perpetuity will be. New drawing submitted last night by developer. Areas designated as open space will be maintained by developer (walking trails, parking lot, perhaps outdoor exercise equipment, etc).

Ken Bernhard (KB suggested \$1 lease mechanism to keep rest of property (outside the 10 acres) as open space for now, so that developer will maintain (mowing, snow removal, etc), revocable at town's option if/when any development plans.

Committee stressed how important open space is to the town, and want to leave options open regarding other parcels of land.

AK appointed subcommittee to look at land component (KB, MM, RH, SD and DB) and report back at next meeting.

Rachel Rangelov from Watermark discussed draft diagram of amenities building. These amenities are essential and important for any senior community that includes market rate units. Envision a lively community hub, with easy access to amenities from senior center. Public spaces with wifi access, cafeteria, full service beauty salon, Watermark University and

meditation garden near the beginning stations of outside exercise equipment . Monthly memberships will be available for: exercise room with senior friendly circuit system which includes computer program to track performance, locker rooms with showers, and warm water pool. Pool has been enlarged and now includes a 7 foot lap lane (proposed dimensions 23 x 50). Monthly fee likely to be \$43 single/\$63 couple for full access plus one class.

Worked closely with Barbara Butler and Sue Pfister and the rest of the amenities subcommittee to complement and enhance services of senior center. Envisioning a joint facility where people will move back and forth. Stu McCarthy and Charlie Habestroh from Parks and Rec will be invited to the March 5th meeting of the amenities subcommittee.

AK delighted by relationship with developer.

Meeting adjourned 10:50 am.

Next meeting: Wednesday, March 12th 9:30 – 11:00am (update from what announced 2/27)