

TOWN OF COLCHESTER
SENIOR CENTER BUILDING COMMITTEE
Tuesday, May 25, 2021 - 7:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting

Minutes

Members in Attendance: Tony Tarnowski, Majorie Mlodzinski, Joe Ruiz, Kevin Hastings, Ron Silberman, Sean Nadeau,

Alternates in Attendance: Madelyn Starkey, Geraldine Transue

Members Absent: Marilyn Turner

Alternates Absent: None

Others Present: BOS Liaison Rosemary Coyle, Director of Senior Services Patty Watts, CSG: Mark G

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Gayle Furman
TOWN CLERK

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman Tarnowski called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Seating of Alternate members:** None
3. **Amendments to Agenda:** None
4. **Citizens Comments:** None
5. **Approval of minutes of May 11, 2021:** J. Ruiz motioned to approve the minutes of April 13, 2021, seconded by M. Mlodzinski. All members voted in favor with K. Hastings, R. Silberman, S. Nadeau abstaining. **MOTION CARRIED**
6. **Correspondence:** An email was received from David Stein making the committee aware of the rising costs of construction materials. Chairman Tarnowski and J. Ruiz attended a meeting to discuss this further. There is no way of telling where costs will be when it is time for building to start. If we were to build now, the current budget would be very tight. Adjustments to things such as materials chosen will need to be looked at closely and contingencies adjusted.
7. **Approval of Invoices:** None
8. **Report of Architect and possible action:** None
9. **Public Information Sub-committee Report**
 - a. **Public Information Mailer update, review and possible action:** R. Coyle commented that she has received questions regarding community use and why the project is not also called a community center. The subcommittee will work on communication and clarity around the community use as well as the frequently asked questions. M. Garilli will put together talking points to provide consistency in the message to the public. The fact that the project, along with the purchasing of new fire equipment, will cost the average taxpayer \$13.09 per year for the first 4 years needs to be emphasized. M. Garilli played a draft sample of a voice-over of the flyover. The video would be available to use anywhere seen fit.
 - b. **Update on presentation to Town Organizations:** Chairman Tarnowski has reached out to the CBA and Lion's Club and made tentative arrangements to present to them. P. Watts said there is a Colchester Cares meeting in July & August that could be another opportunity. She also pointed out that the Senior Center will be open fully in June allowing for tours at night of the facility.
10. **Owner's Representative Update**
 - a. **Overall Project Schedule and Referendum Date:** The budget referendum is set for June 15th. The outcome could change referendum dates for both the fire equipment and the new Senior Center.
 - b. **Town Web-site update:** Members commented on some areas of the website that could be improved. A letter was sent to the paper letting people know that the website is available and will be updated with new information as the project progresses.

11. Open items

- a. **Other Funding Sources – State Bonding Commission:** No updates
- b. **Letter writing campaign and schedule:** Letter writing to the paper starts June 8th. K. Hastings will keep track of other letters of support to the paper. P. Watts continues to recruit members willing to write letters of support.

12. Citizens Comments: L. Pasternak suggested posting a video of the project on social media platforms. C. Russi commented on community use of the center. S. Nadeau shared a link to the new center in East Hartford. R. Silberman donated his booth at both CBA events to promote the project.

13. Adjournment: R. Silberman motioned to adjourn. Chairman Tarnowski adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Submitted by,

Dawn LePage, Clerk