

Minutes of Deerfield Police Dept. Planning Committee

August 20, 2018

Members Present: Andy Robertson, Cindy McHugh, Zach Langlois, Brad Briggs, Jeanne Menard, Gary O'Connell, Dwight Barnes

Meeting called to order at 6:45 by A. Robertson

Shortly after opening the meeting the committee left the GBW building to do a "walk through" on vacant land owned by the town directly across the street from the GBW (undeveloped portion of map/lot 415 032). Group entered land from Bicentennial Field parking area and exited via frontage on Candia Rd.

Committee then inspected land surrounding GBW building (map/lot 415 001) and the interior of the Northern section of the GBW building.

Committee returned to the upstairs meeting room at the GBW, general discussion then ensued about the parcels viewed to date and there was discussion about 3 privately owned properties that may or may not be available for use. It was unanimously agreed that all possible, potential sites should be considered and evaluated by the committee whether town owned or privately owned and whether having existing buildings (or not).

Discussion then focused on whether the committee would have an interest in renovating and retrofitting a larger portion of the GBW building as opposed to developing raw land. D. Barnes indicated that the "NH Listens" summary indicated that the community was interested in a "Yankee Solution" and that re-purposing an existing facility seemed to fit that criteria. There was general agreement with this observation and conversation switched to how best to provide for Parks & Recreation and it's community valued after school and summer youth programs. J. Menard noted that it will be critically important to have costs for a free standing, new Police Dept. and costs for a renovation project as the group funnels information into the recommendation making process.

General discussion about police space needs and parks & rec space needs ensued, Z. Langlois explained how the school works in conjunction with parks & rec presently, B. Briggs noted that in the process of planning for PD space the town might well be able to "kill 2 birds with one stone" and come out with a recommendation that would be better for both the kids in parks & rec programs and the Police Dept.. The committee agreed that an important goal for any proposals would be to increase separation of parks & rec programs from the day to day operation and activities of the PD.

J. Menard proposed that the committee review 2 of the check lists found in the IACP police facility planning guide the group has access to. J. Menard distributed copies of said check lists. The group focused on the "site evaluation" check list (pgs. 24-25 in the IACP guide), J. Menard felt the committee should identify which criteria on the check lists could be considered "top 5" considerations by committee members, B. Briggs felt the group should identify and rank considerations before it went further in the process, the group agreed and set about identifying. The top 5 items in the groups collective mind came down to:

- 1) Cost of land and site development
- 2) Topography/Geotechnical combined with water and wetlands concern
- 3) Public access combined with visibility
- 4) Response to citizen needs & concerns
- 5) Proximity to other government functions

There was further discussion that these criteria were for the basic site evaluation and that components and considerations might be different for other aspects of the process.

The committee next identified which sites discussed, keeping in mind that all potential sites, should be considered for viability. The sites named included:

- 1) Town owned property across the street from the Penguin Mart (map/lot 209 34)
- 2) Town owned property directly across street from the GBW (map/lot 415 32)
- 3) The GBW site/building (map/lot 415 01)
- 4) Privately owned property at 12 Church St. (map/lot 210 06)
- 5) Privately owned former Community Center (for sale) (map/lot 210 11)
- 6) School Owned property @ jct of Rte 43 & Middle (map/lot 418 81)

It was agreed that committee members would use the top 5 criteria from the site evaluation checklist to evaluate the listed properties and bring their rankings and rationale to the next meeting.

There was discussion about community outreach and ensuring that there is not misconception about the parcels being considered or the intent of the committee. It was also noted that more community awareness of the committee's work will help in gaining support for the final recommendation. A. Robertson noted that K. Loughlin, while not able to attend tonight's meeting, has been working on a prototype social media page that will help publicize the committee's concerns and considerations.

Z. Langlois made a motion to accept the minutes of 07/30/18, C. McHugh seconded, several corrections were offered; pg. 2 line 42 – Cindy McHugh's name spelling corrected, pg. 3 line 41 – date corrected to August 13, pg. 2 line 20 – word "process" replaced with "progress", pg. 3 lines 45-48 (relative to Freese's Pond site) phrase "to present a project on a building site that meets current wetland setbacks"

Next meeting was scheduled for Monday, August 27th at 6:45 PM

Z. Langlois motion to adjourn at 8:15, B. Briggs second.

Attachments: IACP Site Evaluation criteria, Map of parcels.

Minutes compiled by A. Robertson