Caryl Community Center Committee
Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: January 9, 2019 @ Caryl Community Center Room 108 @ 7:30pm

Attendees:
Selectman Committee Appointees: Lauren Brodsky, Amy Collins, Richard Forte, Erin Rodat-Savla, Terry Sobolewski, Ford Spalding & Bob Springett
Committee Stakeholders: Jen Cashman, Bob Cocks, Karen Pierce & Amee Tejani
Other Attendees: None

The Meeting was called to Order at 7:30pm.

Attendees introduced themselves.

The Minutes for 12/05/2018 were voted on and approved as were the Minutes for 12/21/2018.

Amy Collins and Terry Sobolewski gave the Renovations Subcommittee update. They are working to resolve a few differences between the reports of the previous studies done by Don Mills of Mills Whitaker Associates and the November 27, 2018 On-Site Insight report. The next step is to finalize the cost estimates of the work to be done to remediate/fully renovate Caryl. (additional renovation work may be identified to meet projected program needs) The On-site Insight report will be utilized as the de facto plan for the “default”, remediate only, plan for the existing building.

On January 7, 2019 this subcommittee met with Don Mills, Kathy Weld & Karl Warnick to review their findings and discuss areas where differences and/or incomplete information were identified. This was an extremely helpful discussion and learned, among a number of things, that the existing building may accommodate some structural changes if warranted. Don Mills suggested improving the front entrance and modifying three egress points in the room occupied by Erin's School of Dance.

There was a discussion on reallocation of space within the existing building as related to the management of the building.

Erin Rodat-Savla gave the Current Use of the Building Subcommittee update. We have obtained a detailed 12 month report from Park & Rec looking at Programs, Dates & Times, Rooms and numbers of participants. We have similar information from our Licensees. We will work with the Council on Aging to assist them in obtaining the same information.

There was a discussion on the roles of the Stakeholders. We expect them to advocate for the project with their constituents providing regular updates on Committee actions, progress, issues raised and anticipated next steps. As a conduit for the Committee, we expect them to inform the committee of resident questions, suggestions and other comments. The Stakeholders also need to articulate the Mission of this Committee. We are not charged as a design/build/renovate the building Committee. Rather, we have been asked to prepare options for the residents’ consideration on what path to choose regarding the
Caryl Center facility. We will provide space/size requirements to 1) Maintain the current remediate plan. 2) Full renovation based on programs & use. 3) Build a new facility based on programs and use. All with not-to-exceed cost estimates. Our goal is to understand the level of investment the residents will make, if any, in a Community Center facility. We will ask our Stakeholders to set up periodic meetings with their constituents.

Lauren Brodsky gave the report related to our plan to visit other communities Community Buildings that serve their towns. We identified Lexington, Natick, Sherborn, Stow, Wellesley and Weston, as well as 8 "like communities" based on population, wealth and rural character. During the discussion it was suggested we also see Medfield, Millis, Needham & Norfolk. Mrs. Brodsky also presented a list of questions and information to be collected during these visits. There were suggestions related to "guiding principles": physical capabilities/capacity and intended utilization. The plan is to finalize the questionnaire template and the information we want to collect. We will then select a few towns to "beta test" our format and information request and then contact and send it out to the appropriate people at each facility. We will then schedule follow up site visits, interview facility managers and take pictures of the facilities to complete the information gathering process.

Ford Spalding informed the Committee that he has reserved a warrant article on the 2019 spring Annual Town Meeting for the Committee’s request to amend last May’s amended Article 15 to allow the Committee to spend money approved in that article on new facility research.

Ford Spalding also distributed by an earlier email the 2018 committees Town Report copy. A few changes were recommended.

Meeting dates will be changed to Thursdays. The following are our current placeholder dates for 2019: 1/31, 2/14, 2/28, 3/14, 3/28, 4/18, 5/9 & 5/23. It is understood that there are some conflicts which will need to be adjusted nearer the time.

Our next meeting date is January 31, 2019 at 7:30 pm in Room 108 of the Caryl Community Center.

The Meeting Adjoined at 9:25pm

Respectfully Submitted By:
Ford Spalding, Chair