

Town of Jefferson
Office of the Planning Board

Minutes

February 23, 2016

Members present: Chairman Gordon Rebello; Donna Laurent, Gil Finch, Jeff Young, Jason Call, alternate

Absent: Charles Muller, Michael Meehan, Cindy Silver, alternate; Kevin Meehan, Selectmen's representative

Others present: Charlene Wheeler, Board secretary, Joe Marshall

Jason Call in the absence of regular members was designated a voting member for this meeting.

Minutes

Jeff Young noted his title should be written as doctor not mister in the minutes. Jeff Young made the motion to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2016 meeting as so amended, seconded by Donna Laurent. The vote to accept the motion was unanimous.

Consultation – Presentation by the Library Building Committee

Joe Marshall representing the Jefferson Library Building Committee gave a slide presentation as part of the committee's effort to keep the community updated about the new library and to address some citizens concerns. Mr. Marshall said though it seemed work on plans for the library have taken a long time, from the library visitations their committee members have made throughout New England, the average project time is about 10 years. Funding, of course, is a major concern and he outlined several sources of possible revenue. The Friends group is now designated a 501c3 which is an advantage in raising monies. The goal is to have a low maintenance, energy efficient facility capable of providing many opportunities for use in future years, a building that will become a center of community activities. Pictures of the facility along with building and site plan diagrams were shown. The architects are Banwell Associates and the contractor is Daniel Hebert Inc. of Colebrook. The current projected cost is approximately \$819,000. Several issues were discussed including room exits, driveway and parking locations, handicap access, water and septic requirements. The intersection of North Road and Route 2 at the corner of the lot with traffic turning was also discussed. A potential closing of the Jefferson elementary school sometime in the future and its impact on the current plans were also discussed. Could a library be housed there along with town offices? There are a lot of negatives with rehabbing a building probably built in the 1950s. In any case, it was hoped, unless circumstances drastically changed, the committee would continue with its present plans so as not to lose more time as it did when the Moulton property site plan had to be abandoned. Board members thanked Mr. Marshall for a very informative presentation and he left the meeting.

Financial Report

Jeff Young made the motion to accept the financial report, seconded by Jason Call. The vote to accept the motion was unanimous.

Communications

A notice has been received that the Annual Spring Planning and Zoning Conference scheduled for April 23 in Concord has been postponed.

Copies of Selectmen’s minutes were circulated.

A public meeting at the town hall on March 1 was announced to discuss a potential OHRV trail system in Jefferson.

Other Business

Jeff Young made the motion to cancel the March 8 meeting of the Planning Board as the date conflicts with town meeting, seconded by Donna Laurent. The vote to accept the motion was unanimous.

Jeff Young made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Donna Laurent. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55p.m.

Charlene Wheeler
Secretary to the Board