

Town of South Thomaston
Library and Community Center Facility Committee
Minutes of meeting X
07/14/22 6:00 PM at South Thomaston Town Office

Attending

Library and Community Center Facility Committee:

Moira Paddock

Sandy Weisman (co-chair)

Gabe Tomasulo (co-chair)

Marcia Turner

Candace Smith (arrived at 6:08PM)

Absent:

Maureen Spencer

Members of the public:

Elizabeth Lunt

Sondra Wallace

S. Weisman called the meeting to order at 6:01PM

M. Paddock requested that the order of the agenda be changed to prioritize the approval of previous minutes; M. Paddock further requested that an agenda item be added in order to discuss whether or not an August meeting should be held

M. Paddock moved that the previous meeting minutes be approved as amended; M. Turner seconded. Minutes were approved 4-0.

Old business

S. Weisman shared the results of the community survey. 74 surveys were received. The committee reviewed the top 10 most popular spaces and activities for both the library and community center spaces. The most popular choice overall was a space to house annual Town Meetings. In general, community center spaces received more votes than library-specific spaces.

Committee members discussed the idea that the new facility would serve as an emergency shelter for the community.

G. Tomasulo introduced the building design process. The process begins with discussing how the functions indicated on the survey, along with known library needs, can be translated into a concise list of rooms and spaces. This is called programming. Building programming will commence at the next committee meeting.

Committee members discussed potential ways to incorporate the memory of the Gilford Butler School into a new facility.

Committee members discussed programming for seniors at the new facility.

S. Weisman began discussion of fundraising ideas to date. S. Weisman has begun a spreadsheet collecting ideas and potential funding sources. Committee members agreed that it was important to collaborate with the existing Town Library on fundraising activities.

S. Weisman gave an update on the incorporation of the South Thomaston Library and Community Center Auxiliary. S. Weisman noted that the South Thomaston Select Board had voted to direct the Town Attorney to proceed with incorporation. S. Weisman noted that the next steps in the process are to convene the board of directors of the Auxiliary, stage the first board meeting, then pursue 501(c)3 non-profit status.

Committee members discussed the process for nominating members of the board of directors of the Auxiliary. Items discussed included desired qualifications and skills, collaboration with the Select Board, and community outreach to identify potential board members. M. Paddock suggested that each committee member come to the next meeting with 4 potential names for individuals to nominate to the board.

S. Weisman distributed a draft list of what would be expected of a member of the board of directors. Committee members discussed expectations and requirements for potential board members of the Auxiliary.

New business

The committee discussed resignations. Pennie Alley and Anne Just resigned from the committee between the June and July meetings. S. Weisman indicated that C. Lerme (not present) had put her name in as a potential committee member.

The committee discussed the relationship between the fundraising activities of the Auxiliary and the building design process. The Auxiliary exists purely to raise funds; design remains the responsibility of the Committee.

S. Weisman gave an update on donations received so far. The Town has received one donation of \$850.00.

E. Lunt indicated that she was interested in making a donation in honor of her father-in-law, who had devoted much of his life to education. The donation would be for the children's reading room in the new library.

The committee discussed next steps and tasks. Committee members will come to the next meeting with a list of potential nominees for the board of directors of the Auxiliary, as well as thoughts on the most critical rooms and spaces to incorporate into the new facility.

The committee agreed not to schedule a meeting in August. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, 9/8/22 at 6:00PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gabe Tomasulo
Co-Chair