

MEETING OF: ROGERS SCHOOL RE USE COMMITTEE

Minutes August 1,2022 4:30 PM

Voting Members in Attendance:

Sue_Y__ Doug_Y_ Nils_Y__ Beverly _N____ Cathy_Y__

Wayne_Y____ Lisa __N____ Liaison Keith __Y____

FAIRHAVEN TOWN CLERK
RCUD 2023 MAR 28 AM 10:49

Non- Voting Associate Members in Attendance:

Barbara: __Y____ Gary __Y____

1. Approve minutes from March 15,2022 meeting. Doug added changes,

2 Introduce MS Angie Lopes Ellison, Town Administrator:

TA Ellison introduced herself and wanted to meet with the whole committee. Though current legal issues still arise on Rogers School property, encouraged the committee to move forward with all efforts. TA Ellison also asked the committee to create a new charge, to keep direction. She will work with the Chair on examples of other committee charges to adapt / modify to our committee. Gary L asked of putting money in escrow for legal issues and TA Ellison stated it is too premature. Wayne H. asked of what is holding up the overall process? Since the legal issues are discussed in Executive Session, she is not able to openly discuss the issue.

2. Reorganize board

TA Ellison assisted in reorganizing the board. Doug nominated Sue as Chair, Cathy M. made the motion for Sue as Chair, second by Barbara A / Nils I. Passes 4-1 Wayne H. opposed. Cathy nominated Doug for vice-chair, motion made by Barbara, second by Nils, passes 4-1 Wayne H. opposed. Wayne nominated Beverly R. as Clerk, second by Doug, Cathy motioned for Beverly to be Clerk, second by Barbara, passes all in favor.

4, Registry update

Application was revised and sent back to MHC who had requested a few additional changes, awaiting on response back from MHC.

5. Change in Mission Statement

This item was in reference to clarification of the Ex-officio Select Board representative, but was passed over since all Select Board Members had agreed previously at their meeting that they are now Liaisons to committees and commissions and no longer vote.

6. Grounds clean up October 1,2022

The Chair Sue L. asked about setting a brush/ debris cleanup date for the exterior grounds of Rogers school. Barbara A. agreed it was a good idea as well as Cathy M. and the date of Saturday October 1,2022 at 9:00 AM was chosen. It is open to the public and everyone is encouraged to attend and help with the brush cleanup

7. Additional possibility for school to consider

Review of Studio2Sustain Proposal presented by Kathryn Duff – owner of company. Since the committee sought out at last meeting to see about possible additions and explorations possibilities, Studio2Sustain was contacted and reviewed the property and created a proposal. Kathryn Duff of Studio2Sustain was asked to present her exploration proposal on Rogers School. Kathryn explained that the proposal was to create a preliminary study of Rogers School as a Community Development. The company explores alternative avenues of uses for historic buildings such as Rogers property. She has successfully worked with WHALE in New Bedford and in addition successful in many buildings converted to community development projects. Kathryn Duff explained the building is already sustainable since it is built, it is now a matter of finding the best community “fit” for the addition and the main historic building. Her proposal identifies additional funding opportunities with grants. It will also identify possible multi use of the property with educational aspects, such as artist space, start up space, community activities. She would have to look at all possibilities. Paul Foley said it would be good to see a updated type version from the Kirk study which was done in March 2017 based on prior years information and see the changes since the years of covid and the market. Gary expressed concerns over costs of contractors and wants to see a housing project begin right away. Wayne H. did not feel the need for such a proposal and that we have 3 rfp respondents and wants to see a housing project move forward and the rfp’s reviewed. Cathy M. stated that the town does not and is not required to have to accept any rfp just because they have been submitted. Expressed concern over the park area being lost and the park it a highly utilized area. Kathryn was asked that she should review all the old studies and the rfp’s and ensure up to current. Since Kathryn has not been hired and submitted a exploration proposal, she has not reviewed that paperwork, but is aware of the lis pendens and legal aspects. Barbara said the exploration proposal was an excellent idea and would love to see the report. Nils expressed concerns over the RFP housing projects aspect due to difficult parking and the tight arrangement of houses in the area and the community. the chair advised the board that we were discussing the Exploration proposal and now off topic and to remain on the topic. Doug made a motion that we move ahead in recommending the Exploration proposal by Studio2Sustain and to proceed with it with donations to pay for the proposal (\$7500) if needed. Passes 4-1 Wayne H. opposed.

8. Set next meeting date

A next meeting date was not decided at the meeting.

9. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn