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COA SUBCOMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 8, 2022

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Attendance:

Deborah Pettey – Interim Town Administrator
Robert Alderson
Kent Wilkinson
Alfred Barros
Bruce W. Wilbur
Jeffrey Amaral
Margaret French
Wayne Jaye
Norman Landreville - Alternate

Absent:

George Grunwald
Paula Charette

Documents: Feasibility Study for Freetown Council on Aging Building

Meeting opened at 6:00 by Bruce Wilbur.

Bruce Wilbur conducted a tour of the second floor of the Senior Center for committee members that were interested. Room that was open space for seniors to congregate and conduct activities was limited to the pool room. The remainder of the second floor was designated as office space, a small food pantry for seniors, a kitchen, and a reception area.

Discussion with committee regarding plans for the library. Discussion began with finances in town. Bob Alderson presented concerns with the town approving new buildings for COA, Library, and Town Hall.

Bruce Wilbur projected drawings for the proposals set out in the feasibility study. Discussions ensued about the merits of each design. The concern is that there will be more space for seniors to do their activities. The current building does not allow for many seniors to participate.

20 ft by 70 ft may not be big enough. Possibly switching the location of proposed rooms on the first floor and moving the elevator to the exterior would give needed room for activities such as yoga and dancing.

A question was raised regarding the needs of the COA. Compass stated in the feasibility study that there was a need for an additional 3,000 square feet. The new building proposed would be 7,000 square feet.

Norman Landreville presented a drawing for a joint COA/Library building. It would be an addition to the existing building giving 6,000 square feet on the top floor and 6,000 square feet on the bottom. There would be an entrance foyer with a door to the bottom floor and an elevator to the second. Discussion regarding the possibility of expanding left and right of the existing building led to an option of expanding to the front. Deb Pettey reinforces that a decision should be made as to whether we want a joint

COA/Library building or a separate COA. Building in phases may be a better way to get money from the Town. Discussion about doing the Selectman voted 20' by 70' for the COA now with the possibility of an expansion for the Library at a later date. Decision was made to meet with the Library Planning Committee to discuss the possibility of a joint use building.

Motion to adjourn 7:50 PM. The subcommittee voted unanimously to adjourn.

Next meeting to be a joint meeting with the Library Planning Committee: February 23, 2022, at 6PM at the COA Building
