



RECEIVED  
FREETOWN TOWN CLERK  
2016 JUL 14 PM 2:52 *QMB*

**TOWN OF FREETOWN  
BUILDING COMMITTEE**  
3 North Main Street/P.O. Box 438  
Assonet, MA 02702-0438  
PHONE: 508-644-2201; FAX: 508-644-3342

**AGENDA  
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY JUNE 15, 2016**

**COUNCIL ON AGING  
227 CHACE ROAD, EAST FREETOWN, MASSACHUSETTS**

**6:00 P.M. Call to Order** Committee Chair Lisa Pacheco calls the meeting to order. Also present: Fire Chief Gary Silvia, Kent Wilkens, Tony DeMelo, Charles Sullivan, Lucille Rosa, Mary Rezendes Brown, Sgt. Benjamin Levesque, Jeanette Tisdelle, Paul Denault, Selectman Robert Jose, Paul Lubin and Town Clerk Jackie Brown. The meeting is being recorded by FREECAM.

Chairperson Pacheco explains this is a long process, aimed at trying to save the town money. She also is clarifies that Town Administrator Jack Healey stated that a company would be paying for this whole thing; however this will need to be a debt exclusion.

**Council on Aging Presentation**

Jeannette Tisdelle makes a presentation on the "wants" for a new Council on Aging. They would like 11,701 sq ft. They would like a reception area, a senior clerk's office, director's office, locking storage office, and 2 spare offices. For bathrooms, one for the employees only, one for the others, plus 2 extra bathrooms. Other assorted rooms: a computer room for seniors, a game activity room, a health room, a food pantry, a kitchen/break room, a conference room, an unshared conference room, a kitchen/hall. All storage areas would need to be temp controlled. Further: storage for medical equipment, a gym for seniors, clothes washer/dryer room, a supply room, a function room, a printer room, a shower room. A discussion is held about this being an emergency shelter. Mr. Demelo points out that when corridor space is considered, the square-footage would actually be 14K sq ft, not the 11,701 sq ft originally noted. Ms. Tidelle says this would be all on one level, but Mr. Denault says a chair lift could be utilized. Chairperson

Pacheco asked if the COA staff has looked into grants, reminding them they are getting an extra clerk in the near future. Ms. Tisdelle says they have not yet had time to do that.

### **Library**

Lucille Rosa gives a presentation on the wants of a new library. She says it would need a staff area, a children's area, an adult area, a work area, a sitting area, a reading area, a small study room, a large study room and a meeting room that can be used by the whole town. Paul Lubin points out that these wants were already distributed to everyone in the initial library plan.

Chairperson Pacheco asks how the library will fit into this committee, as they are in a different point in development. She reminds everyone that a decision as to where we need to go is required. Mrs. Rosa says if we don't go forward with the library as they are planning, then the Town will be throwing away at least 3 million dollars. Mary Brown says she thought the idea was we needed to see what was available and feasible for the town. We've already heard from an outside agency what we needed. We also need to look at the space that isn't being used. Chairperson Pacheco says we will ultimately need to show the town how we can do this. Mr. Lubin says for the Library, the land we own can be put towards the grant. We already have a schematic of the library. Mrs. Rosa says the state doesn't have construction money available at all times; next year there will be money available. Ms. Tisdelle asks if they get the money in 2017 for the construction do they need to use it right away? Mrs. Rosa explains they don't need to use it immediately. Charlie Sullivan asks if they can use grant money to build a combined building; Mrs. Rosa says yes. Chairperson Pacheco asks if thoughts on a combined building have changed, but the committee agrees they are still against one building.

### **Old School House Discussion**

Chairperson Pacheco wants to hear from the historical commission on the old school house, next to the Town Hall. Mrs. Rezendes Brown says they have done a lot with the school house, but there is a lot more that would need to be done for it to be used. Chairperson Pacheco wants to know what the pros of it to be used, what's the positive for attaching it to the Town Hall: additional space, an area for a conference room and storage, plus matching grants because it's historical. Mr. Sullivan notes that when you renovate, you don't have to worry about a vacant

building. Mrs. Brown thinks we can be creative with parking. Chairperson Pacheco wants to make sure the inside of the building is taken care of as well.

### **Police Station Follow-Up**

Returning to the Police Station discussion from last meeting, Sgt. Levesque says they always just seem to fix the problems, but then new problems come. Mr. Sullivan says they have replaced the heating systems 3 times already. Mr. Deneault asks if they can put a new building there if they tear the existing building down. Chairperson Pacheco asks if everyone is in agreement that a new police station the way to go. Everyone agrees. Senior Clerks Timm McIntosh and Steven Chandler can help write a grant. Selectmen Jose explains the land situation. Chairperson Pacheco says we need to look at the sewer and we need to look at the land next to the Fire Department and the grants for the COA/Library.

Next meeting we need to find out what land is available, maybe a big plot plan, and address the question of what buildings we should combine. 3 buildings is what it sounds like we are moving towards. We also need to narrow down potential properties and look at the plans. We will have to decide what field trips and buildings we want to go look at, Acushnet plus 3-5 like communities.

The committee will meet next on July 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm, again at the COA. Motion to adjourn (Jose/Denault) at approximately 7:15pm. Passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ali Golz, Administrative Assistant