

Topsham Community Center Committee
Minutes August 19, 2024, Time: 5:15 PM

1. Call to order. Time: 5:20 PM

Members: Steve Kessler, Lynn Sirois, Alison Cary-Blais, Kathy Hunter, Heather Rogers

Staff: Pam LeDuc and Mark Waltz

Members absent: Leslie Byrne and Kim Pride

Guests present: Brian Robertson, Mark Lee (remotely)

2. Any changes to this agenda? No changes at this time.

3. Review Findings Report and Power Point (Mark Lee and Alison) – Review the current PowerPoint version and discussed some of the follow up notes:

- slide 6/ Additional Quotes – Team decided that one set of quotes is sufficient – delete this slide
- Slide 14-15 – Splitting into two slides works – we can also add some notes regarding the most common responses in other (Ice Rink, Basketball, Senior Center) – Side note: the full responses will also be available in additional addendum being provided.
- Slide 19-20 - Same as slides 14/15
- Slides 23 and 24 - Discussed the content on both TCCC recommendation (pulled from original welcome letter to the Topsham Community Center Committee) and recommendation for new charge
 - Concern about too much being listed on the charge. First step is to get location selected
 - Then to continue part two of the Harriman work – “after site selected work with consultation group on 2nd half of proposal.)
 - Combine line item 3 and line item 5 for fundraising into one bullet point
 - Some level of term – decided on recommended term of approximately one year.

RE: Potential location - Mark Waltz discussed some potential upcoming opportunities as part of the Lower Road Rail Trail – Expected upcoming presentation to selectboard that our group might want to attend for further information (either 2nd September meeting or 1st October meeting). It could be a potential option for the land previously discussed near the Topsham Fair Grounds.

Final Report from Harriman: Mark Lee reviewed Harriman Report as it stands currently. Will send to TCCC by end of this week for our team to review and suggest changes. Will be important to respond promptly to get the documentation into Town on 08/27/2024.

4. Discuss CHARGE of next round of committee if approved

Discussed as part of the PowerPoint presentation in Agenda Item 3.

The mission of the Community Center Committee is to understand the desires and needs of the Topsham Community to identify accessible, affordable, sustainable recreational solutions that will serve the multigenerational community and social connections among Topsham citizens.

4b. Discuss presentation to Select Board on September 5th

1. Who will get information submitted to board prior to August 27th

TCCC team will make sure to take one final review as soon as we have draft from Mark L and respond to group email with any changes. Final documents should be submitted no later than morning of 08/27/2024.

2. Who will be presenting?

Recommended from group that presentation should be led by committee members (with Mark Lee in attendance for additional follow up)

Steve and Alison to do the presentation will present PowerPoint

Request for all committee members to join meeting in person if available.

5. Touring other Community Centers – Updates-

Pam informed the group that Lisbon welcomes us to tour at any point (also request sent for financials) Wiscasset – did send financials – no separate operating costs, all in one. Could be a good starting point for next steps if approval granted for next steps

Would still need to follow up with Waterville

6. Action Steps:

- Team to ensure feedback/ updates is submitted as soon as possible. (Watch for email over the weekend)
- Steve and Alison to connect to discuss presentation – plan for 10-15 minutes but could go longer with questions.

7. Review minutes from the July 15th, 2024, Meeting – Two typo adjustments (add PM to call to order time – and IT/ IF typo on last page.) New copy sent to Pam for posting.

Minutes approved by team.

8. Confirmation of next meeting date/ time: **September 16th 5:15PM**

9. Meeting adjourned. Time 6:16PM.

Parking Lot:

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