

Meeting Minutes 04/18/12

Present: Clem, Ron, Patrick, Penny, Abby, Chris, Andy, Lucia, Tony, Dave and Deb.

The meeting opened with a presentation from Scott Braley and Keith Ewing about the proposed building plans for the town office. Both Keith and Scott provided information about new building codes and compliance as well as detailed information about how and why the proposed plans evolved as they did. Conversation suggested that reducing the size of the meeting room could lead to fewer bathrooms being required. In addition it was brought up that cost of plans included only the building, not site work nor proposed light (for firehouse), sidewalks. These all had high price tags.

Patrick Haney visited with the state fire marshal last week. He brought along the proposed plans, discussed above for review and discussion. The fire marshal suggested that 48 person capacity would be the "breaking point" for number of restrooms. Proposed plan has 2 restrooms, each with two stalls both in compliance with ADA requirements.

Patrick also mentioned that if a residential building was chosen for the town office then all new state regulations (governing size of hallways, ADA accessibility, codes) would have to be applied as in case of new construction. However, if an existing business/commercial building was chosen then we would be exempt from many of these requirements. In any renovation 20% of overall building costs must go to making facility ADA compliant.

Next everyone reported on their action items:

Penny: Several properties to report on including Nason House, located on Main St 79,900. This building was deemed too costly to renovate and won't be pursued further, though we hope someone buys it and renovates it.

Wingate House, 60k

Hodges House, 200k

Penny and Tony brought information about the Old Johnny's Selected Seeds building 150k-
http://www.homes.com/listing/144845164/36_Corn_Shop_Rd_UNITY_ME_04988

Abby reported that at first reading this project would not be eligible for a Community Block Grant

Chris Rossignol reported that the college might be interested in parting with a portion of the Field of Dreams property. It is currently in a conservation easement, but if we untangled the legalese correctly this could be changed. Chris will follow up with college to see how to proceed/get more information.

Across the street the chiropractor's office is in a lease, but sounds like will be purchased. Not sure if it is included in the 8 acres right there, that is listed at 80k.

Andy Reed talked with Bill Russell the house he has on depot st might go up for sale- 140k

It also seems that Steve Bennett has a lot as well as interest in leasing the bottom floor of the Downeast Insurance/Freedom Insurance building.

Jean spoke with someone regarding the Unitel building (former Post office). They are currently using it for a break room, but are open to idea of selling or leasing. Clem mentioned this to Sue and was given enthusiastic support for this location! Clem, in Jean's absence will follow up on this and see if a visit can be arranged for all or some of committee to see the space.

Next meeting is set for Monday, April 23rd at 6:30 pm. Clem will talk to Monica about having the meeting at Crosstrax.

Minutes submitted by Abby Sadauckas