

MINUTES

Taylor Library Building Committee

July 10, 2018

5:00 PM

Kittery Town Hall, Council Chambers

Attendees

Kendra Amaral
George Dow
Diane Fallon
Lee Perkins
Jeff Thomson
Patty Moore
Roger Cole
Jan Lamont-Rodonets
Barry Fitzpatrick

Absent

Matt Brock

Introductions

Introductions of all members were made as this was the first meeting to include resident members Roger Cole, Jan Lamont-Rodonets and Barry Fitzpatrick.

Committee Organization and Roles

Kendra Amaral discussed the role of the Taylor Building Committee in the context of the full Rice Library project recognizing that the Taylor building is a critical parcel in a desirable area.

It was agreed that Diane Fallon would be the Chair of the Committee.

Project Plan and Timeline

The importance of the timing of the building disposition was discussed as the Taylor Building will be used as a temporary library site during the renovation of the Rice building. It was also agreed that there would be community input for the best use of the building/site.

It is projected that the Library will become a Town department in FY20 and that the bonding vote for the renovation of Rice is projected to take place in November, 2019. The project timeline in general will be dictated by the progress of the Rice building renovation.

General Discussion

The Taylor building was purchased in 1994 and currently houses the Children's Room, Adult Fiction and DVDs. The renovation/expansion of the Rice Library will eliminate the need for the Taylor Building so this property will be available for disposition. Since this is a valuable parcel in a key area of Kittery, the disposition or future use of the building and/or lot are critical for the town. As such, any plan for the building/lot must fit the area and goals of the Foreside.

It was discussed that the plan for this site must fit in with the Comprehensive Plan and Foreside Study recently completed. It was suggested and agreed that the Director of Planning and Development should attend future meetings in order to provide guidance and input into the plan for the site.

Transfer of Property to the Town

Once the Library becomes a department in FY20, all assets will be transferred to the town. There will be no financial renumeration for the transfer.

Initial Thoughts Regarding Building

1. Discussion concerning necessity of expanding views for the building disposition beyond that of the Committee. Agreed that resident input important.
2. Possibility of a design charette as proposals are solicited.
3. Research of Discover Portsmouth as a starting reference point. This project converted a former library into a Welcome Center and museum of exhibitions and programs devoted to Portsmouth history.
4. Diane Fallon would research any Small Agency Federal Infrastructure Grants that may be applicable to the project.
5. Discussion concerning possible Town needs for the site in the context of other available lots or lots to be available in the future.

Next Steps

1. Planning Director to fill group in regrading development in the Foreside.
2. Review of Comprehensive Plan and Foreside Study.
3. Research of Discover Portsmouth project.
4. Dropbox to be established for the exchange of information among group members.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Patricia A. Moore