

Yarmouth Library Planning Committee
Minutes of Meeting
February 15, 2022

Attending Committee Members: Linda Callahan, Mary Reardon Johnson, Will Rubenstein and Richard Simon. Joseph Baker, George Bovino and Sue Loveland absent.

Attending from the Library Department: Jane Cain

Attending from the Public: Stephen Singer

The virtual Zoom Meeting was called to order shortly after 4:15 PM.

1. As required by state open meeting law, a public notice was read and a rollcall vote was conducted to authorize use of the online meeting method. All LPC members voted in the affirmative. The meeting was recorded and is available for viewing at <https://www.youtube.com/c/TownofYarmouthMassachusetts/videos>
2. The meeting was opened to public comment. No comments were offered and the meeting continued.
3. The minutes of Jan 18th were approved by unanimous rollcall vote.
4. Mary Reardon Johnson and Linda Callahan reported on the February 3, 2022 virtual 'Housing Summit' to discuss affordable housing issues. Of specific interest to the LPC was discussion of land use, especially the large parcel adjacent to the senior center, which was referenced as a potential for housing, library and fire services. Members of the LPC will continue to participate in meetings which would have an impact on library site options. The meeting video can be viewed at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CtyTYEYe2Zs>
5. The option to incorporate library services in a multi-use facility has been a topic at several recent meetings. Linda Callahan recounted her recent visit at the new (Jul 2021) ~50,000 sf town hall, library and senior center in South Burlington VT costing \$22.1 million which was funded entirely by town debt, grants and donations. The library footprint, including a 100 seat auditorium, is ~27,000 sf for a population of 20,200 which has been growing ~2% per year. Public parking for this facility is shared with the towns nearby elementary school, two affordable apartment buildings and a community park. South Burlington has a town budget and school enrollment similar to Yarmouth but half the number of houses (seasonal housing factor).

Additional details, including floorplans, can be found at the following link:
https://www.southburlingtonvt.gov/residents/city_center_tif_district/180Market.php

6. At last month's meeting, committee members were asked to provide FAQs that would be a component of a broader community outreach. Initial drafts of several FAQs had been emailed to the LPC prior to the meeting.

After lively discussion regarding both substance and style, Mary Reardon Johnson offered to be the point person for the next iteration of the FAQs with an emphasis on the shortcomings and risk factors of the existing facilities that would be far more costly to mitigate when compared to the alternative of a single new facility. For reference, the JRA report that provides most of the relevant facts can be viewed at the following link:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1sH7P-0_N2LpFtK5G3esFidgnzLG8gHMY/view

7. Chairperson Callahan wasn't able to speak with the School Superintendent to ask about possible issues (e.g. shared access, student safety, etc.) regarding the Christmas Way/Old Town House Road parcels prior to this meeting but plans to connect with the Superintendent prior to the next LPC meeting.

Separately, she plans to contact the Town Administrator for guidance on the legal matters related to the parcel adjacent to the Senior Center.

8. The LPC will meet next on Mar 15th at 4:00PM.

A motion to adjourn was accepted by unanimous rollcall vote about 5:30 PM.