

20071127 WT TOWN HALL RENOVATION COMMITTEE MINUTES –

PRESENT: Kent Healy, Bea Phear, Jim Osmundsen, Virginia Jones, Chuck Hodgkinson Kate Warner

ALSO PRESENT FOR ALL OR PART OF THE MEETING: Kathy Logue, Staff Liaison, Glenn Hearn, Joe Eldredge

AND WT Historic Commission: Sean Conley, Lanny McDowell, Ben Moore, Annie Fisher, Nancy Dole (5:15 onward)

Meeting called to order at 1630 and adjourned at 1800

Schematic Elevations were handed out for discussion. H.C. likes that Addition is secondary to Main Building.

Placement of Entry and Vault

B Moore felt that the stair in the Main Building should be moved to the NE corner and that its exit door be a center door on the street side of the building. Feels a center door on the street side is important.

Suggested Vault in basement instead of on 1st floor.

L McDowell asked if technology would be changing such that a vault would soon not be needed upstairs?

K Logue said that we were considering a small vault on the 1st floor with an archival vault in the basement but that the Clerk needs, currently, to get into the vault hourly.

L McDowell said he thought the entry location looks pretty good for one that is not on State Road.

Window and Doors

Samples desired for HC to review. Chilmark Town Hall used Pella, clad, simulated divided light double pane windows.

HC also to review the look of the exterior doors and see samples or cut sheets.

Stair windows on addition: prefer shingles in between windows instead of a white strip. Prefer not breaking the cornice. Panes of windows should be more consistent in size with those of the Main Building. Trim same or similar to that of the Main Building. Don't mind the height difference but want trimmed same as Main Building.

Granite Foundation

H.C. likes the granite foundation. Committee said we were doing a poured concrete foundation with 10" exposed above grade. Joe Eldredge suggested granite block veneer and selling the existing stone. (using some of the existing stone to make granite blocks) (Granite veneer is not included in this initial cost estimate.)

Committee explained that the granite was expensive to retain and that in lowering the building, the ramps could be considerably shorter which seemed important as ramps are not historic either. H.C. did not insist upon granite.

Parking:

K Logue expressed interest that there be greater than the 18 spaces currently proposed. Feels that with staff and meeting space, and playground users that this is not adequate.

L McDowell wants adequate spaces that are concentrated and off the street.

S Conley said the current situation with parking all over the front area is horrendous. Wants something to keep people from parking in the front. (curbs and planting discussed.) Suggests that if greater parking spaces, that trees can be used to break up the spaces a bit. And that if greater numbers, that the spaces extend towards the old Library. (away from State Road)

B Moore- likes the 18 spaces. Part-time employees could park on Music Street.

B Phear- does not want to build for the maximum use. Mentioned the trees that we are trying to preserve.

A Fisher- what if 18 spaces are paved asphalt and the overflow are on dirt? Screen parking from Music Street. Thrilled there are just 18 spaces proposed.

K Healy-dirt is difficult to maintain

N Dole- wishes that there be no parking on Music Street.

Trees:

H.C. review if tree removal is of trees over 30 feet. HC review even if they are dead. Tree review time period is about 2 months including advertising, hearing and appeal period. Suggested verification of health of trees by an arborist or our tree warden.

Fencing:

Ben Moore suggested that a white fence along the State Road side of the island would carry the picket fence theme that is at the Church, Grange etc. (discussion that the fence might have to be a later project due to budget constraints)

Lighting:

H.C. to review lighting fixtures.
Intent is minimal lighting: by doorways, and ground level, down-lighting in parking area- no poles. Similar to the Library.

Next Steps with H.C.:

Review by H.C. of windows, doors, tree removal plan, lighting. Granite resolution. Review of elevations and trim once further developed. (Suggestion by Joe Eldredge that elevator roof hatch look like a Victorian cupola.)

Further Committee Discussion:

Question of whether to use metal or wood structure in the Addition. Needs further discussion. Kate asked what Chilmark had done. Chuck to check. Questions about prefabrication idea and the idea of having another trade at the job site.

Still need to know about the sprinkler system: whether it is needed.

Discussion of a recent Joe Eldredge memo: value of having meeting room on the 1st floor and, suggestion to have an information center at the entrance. Committee felt that pamphlet area in entry area would be good. Did not want a computer there for access to assessor information-- felt that should be in Assessor area. Did not feel meeting room location should be changed.

Discussed Main Building Stair location and felt that there were reasons to not have a door on the front of the building: confusing, hasn't been there in some time, bus traffic.

Respectfully submitted, Kate Warner

Approved December 11, 2007