

20080326 WT TOWN HALL RENOVATION COMMITTEE PUBLIC FORUM

7 pm Howes House

PRESENT: Bea Phear, Kent Healy, Jim Osmundsen, Chuck Hodgkinson, Kate Warner, Ginny Jones; Kathy Logue, Staff Liaison.

ALSO PRESENT: Skipper Manter, Sue Hruby, Maggie and Robert Schwartz, Anna Edey, Judy Bryant, Jonathan Revere, Binnie Ravitch, Richard Knabel, Dan Cabot, Glenn Hearn, Mary Lu & Bruce Keep, Elaine and Dan Pace, Tad Crawford, Jack Shea, Mait Edey, George and Andrea Hartman, Cheryl Lowe, Bruce McNelly, Hermine Hull, Shelton and Janet Bank, Peggy Stone, Pat Gregory, Anna Alley, Dianne Powers, Chuck and Linda Hughes and several unidentified folks.

Bea introduced the committee and gave a general introduction to the project. She noted that the power point presentation will be available on the Town website, which might be easier for TV viewers to follow. She accompanied the power point presentation with a synopsis of the various elevations and floor plans and features of the site and landscaping plans. She asked Kate to explain the energy efficiency in terms of the insulation and construction. Chuck presented the financial information: costs, how to pay for it, how it will affect real estate taxes and an overview of how the costs are structured. Bea asked what is next and spoke about that noting that we hope construction will begin in September, or possibly on October 1 and that there should be 12 – 15 months of construction.

Questions from the floor:

Binnie Ravitch congratulated the committee for a thorough presentation .

Elaine Pace wanted to know what some of the unspent funds retrieved from past warrant articles were for. Kathy responded that they were unexpended from capital expenses and the state mandates that such funds must be used for similar – capital – expenses so we hope to use them. She also wanted to know about technology and the server and Kathy answered that as well. Bea noted that there will be a chair rail height piece of trim which circles each floor and through which various IT, phone and electricity lines will be led.

Anna Edey deplored the committee's lack of energy conservation awareness, profligate ways and lack of attention to Al Gore. Bea responded that we have spent hours considering energy conservation and Kate responded as well noting that we have made it so that future energy saving technology can be added as feasible.

Dan Pace: Why both AC and Heat? Bea responded that the natural ventilation will be utilized (and has been maximized) but that there are days when due to heat and/or humidity AC may be necessary.

Richard Knabel asked for details of the HVAC system and why not geo thermal? Kate responded that we included AC but that it doesn't have to be used...also that we await clarification of the specs. Further geothermal is not in the budget and solar panels at ground level are incompatible with other uses of the lot.

Tad Crawford asked for the costs of energy: Bea responded that we have not yet received them.

Binnie Ravitch: question about the temporary location budget...Bea answered that it has been included.

Bruce McNelly: stressed that the building has been designed and will be built so that the HVAC system might be adapted to non fossil fuel in the future.

Kate remarked that whatever happens in the future we have worked hard to achieve a good building which is well insulated. "Al Gore would be proud of us."

Comments heard as people exited were generally favorable and Jack Shea commented that it was the best presentation that he has heard or seen since he's been on the island.

Respectfully submitted

Virginia Jones

Approved 4/15/2008