

## Jennifer Rand

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**From:** Beatrice Phear <beaphear2@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 7, 2023 10:16 AM  
**To:** Jen Rand  
**Cc:** Chuck Hodgkinson; Daniel Waters; Doug Ruskin; Susan Wasserman; Smith Leah; Logue Kathy  
**Subject:** Howes House  
**Categories:** Blue Category

To The Select Board

I am coming in late to this discussion, for which I apologize. I voted to support funding for the Howes House renovation, but I did not expect that it would include more than tripling the size of the building and having major expansions of the facility and programs. It appears to me that there has been insufficient deep thinking about what our small town really needs.

I think the committee is blending and mixing up questions about what to do with an historic building, where to house the needed senior services, and desired recreational activities and their long term costs in both capital and operating funds.

It is my understanding that the few focus groups that were held were urged to "think big" and were not asked to consider priorities, and did not have any kind of formal needs assessment.

It seems to me this whole question would be better put to the visioning activities that will be going on next year. I urge you to put the brakes on this project until the Town has a chance to examine it in the context of all future needs and resources.

Thank you,  
Bea

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