

Southampton Senior Center Building Committee Meeting No. 12

On May 15, 2024, Meeting No. 12 of the Southampton Senior Center Building Committee was held in the second floor meeting room in the Southampton Town Hall. The meeting was called to order by Janet Cain at 12:33 pm. The following people attended the meeting.

MEMBERS	Janet Cain, COA Chair	Libby Baldwin
	Christina Johnson, COA Director	Chris Fowles, Selectboard Rep.
	Scott Szczebak, Town Administrator	Jerry Hillman
	Dennis Vogel	

TOWN OFFICIALS Stephen Johnson, Selectboard and Planning Board

The following is a summary of the discussions held at the meeting.

1. Open Time for Public

- a. No activity.

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. Minutes from the following meeting were approved. All members were in favor.
 - Meeting #10
 - Meeting #11

3. Feasibility Study - Parcel Selection

- a. The process used by the prior Senior Center Feasibility Committee to select parcels to evaluate for use by a senior center was discussed including:
 - Determining both public and privately owned parcels in town that were vacant, centrally located, and of sufficient size for a new senior center
 - Selectboard sending letters to landowners for possible purchase of land for construction of a new senior center
 - Determining both public and privately owned parcels in Town that were for sale and of sufficient size for a new senior center

4. Next Steps

- a. The Committee discussed other possible locations on which to construct a new senior center since the 89 Clark Street parcel was determined to be unsuitable.
- b. A discussion was held regarding the process moving forward and whether we should re-consider any of the other parcels that were previously evaluated. Other than the 117-125 College highway parcel, most other locations have too many issues to consider for a new senior center. L. Baldwin will review the Feasibility Study again to make sure that we have exhausted all of the previously evaluated options.

5. 117-125 College Highway Parcel

- a. The Committee reviewed the plans developed in the Feasibility Study for the 117-125 College parcel. At the time that the Feasibility Study was prepared, the 117-125 College Highway parcel was being considered for private development and it was unsure where a new Senior Center would be sited.
- b. If the Town purchases the entire parcel, it will be used for a public safety complex as well as other Town needs. Siting a senior center on this parcel should be considered as one of the other Town uses.
- c. S. Johnson discussed the possible purchase of the 117-125 College Highway property. He noted that he is a strong proponent of the Town purchasing the parcel for various usages as it opens up opportunities for Town. He would like all committees that would like to use this property to engage with each other for site development planning.
- d. The proximity to Route 10 and traffic concerns relative to a senior center were discussed. Options for curb cuts on Route 10 will need to be evaluated and coordinated with other town uses.
- e. The Committee will tour the 0 College Highway property with S. Johnson on Monday, May 20th at 10 am. The property owner has confirmed that this is acceptable.
- f. A vote will be scheduled sometime in June for the purchase of the property. If it passes, then the Town would finalize a purchase & sale agreement with certain contingencies. A wetlands delineation on the site would be performed prior to the purchase.

6. Friends of Council on Aging - Fundraising

- a. The Friends of the Council on Aging will spearhead fundraising efforts for a new senior center.
- b. If anyone would like to participate in this fundraising activity, then they would need to get an opinion from the Ethics Committee regarding whether or not they should serve in that capacity.

7. Next Meetings

- a. The Committee will walk the 117-125 College Highway parcel on Monday, May 20, 2024 at 10 am.
- b. After the site walk, the next Senior Center Building Committee meeting will be held in person at Town Hall on June 3, 2024 at 12:30 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm.

Submitted by Libby Baldwin, Clerk, Southampton Senior Center Building Committee