

Southampton Senior Center Building Committee Meeting No. 15

On June 17, 2024, Meeting No. 15 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 9:02 am. The following people attended the meeting.

MEMBERS	Janet Cain, COA Chair	Chris Fowles, Selectboard Rep.
	Scott Szczebak, Town Administrator	Jerry Hillman
	Dennis Vogel	Darcie Gasperini

TOWN RESIDENTS Ted Palmer

The following people were absent from the meeting:

Libby Baldwin
Christina Johnson

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 Meeting #14 were approved with all members in favor.

3. 117-125 College Highway Parcel – Town Vote to Acquire Property

- a. The Town will hold a debt exclusion vote on June 25, 2024 to purchase the College Highway parcel.
- b. The Committee discussed the Town vote to purchase the property and the Committee's desire to site the new senior center at this location.
- c. A discussion was held regarding the recent newspaper article about the Town vote and why the Committee decided not to proceed with the purchase of the Clark Street property for a new Senior Center.
- d. The Committee agreed to contribute \$100,000 towards the purchase of the College Highway parcel with the stipulation that 4 acres be set aside for the Senior Center.
- e. S. Szczebak reviewed the process to the purchase of the College Highway property including wetlands delineation, title search, etc.
- f. J. Hillman questioned how the Town would prioritize uses of the parcel (i.e., does the public safety complex or the senior center get first choice of location on the parcel?)
- g. A discussion was held regarding the timing of hiring an OPM and architect for the senior center design and construction.

4. Senior Center Fund Raising

- a. A discussion was held regarding potential fundraising efforts for the new senior center including pickleball and golf outings.
- b. T. Palmer noted that Federal funds may be available for the potential design and/or construction of a new senior center.
- c. C. Fowles noted that letters have been written to government officials regarding the construction of a new senior center. Richard Neal's office sent a response.

5. Miscellaneous

- a. C. Fowles noted that a study to bring sewer to the College Highway property has been approved by the Selectboard.

6. Next Meeting

- a. The next Senior Center Building Committee meeting will be held in person at Town Hall on June 27, 2024 at 12:30 pm.
7. A motion was made to move to executive session. The motion was seconded and passed via a roll call vote with all in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:32 am.

Submitted by Darcie Gasperini, Southampton Senior Center Building Committee member