

Southampton Senior Center Building Committee Meeting No. 24

On February 13, 2025, Meeting No. 24 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	Ted Palmer, COA Chair	Libby Baldwin
	Janet Cain, Co-Chair	Chris Fowles, Select Board Rep.
	Dennis Vogel, Co-Chair	Kate DiSanto, COA Director
	Jerry Hillman	Darcie Gasperini

MEMBERS ABSENT S. Szczebak, Town Administrator

PUBLIC Karle Kushi, Potential Candidate for Committee
Cindy St. George

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

1. Open Time for Public (Occurred at End of Meeting)

- a. Refer to Item #3 for Karle Kushi appointment.
- b. Cindy St. George attended the meeting to learn more about the senior center planning process. She has worked on capital fundraising for projects in the past. She also previously attended the Friends of the Council on Aging to learn about fundraising for this project.

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. Minutes from Meeting #22 were approved with all members voting in favor via a roll call vote.
- b. Minutes from Meeting #23 were approved with all members voting in favor via a roll call vote.

3. Review of Volunteer Application

- a. An application to serve on the Senior Center Building Committee was submitted by Karle Kushi. Karle attended the meeting and discussed his qualifications to serve on the committee and also answered questions from Committee members.
- b. D. Vogel made a motion to recommend that Karle Kushi's nomination to serve on the Senior Center Building Committee be moved forward to the Selectboard for approval. T. Palmer seconded the motion, and it was approved by a roll call vote.

4. Update on Planning Group Public Workshop

- a. D. Gasperini and K. DiSanto will meet with the College Highway Planning group on February 18th as representatives of the Senior Center Building Committee. The meeting will include representatives from various Town committees including public safety & housing, and will be held to obtain further input regarding planning for the development of the parcel. The meeting will be held prior to the public workshop which will be held on February 27th. The planning consultants are trying to get a vision for the parcel "nailed down." The meeting may not be broadcast on EMedia since the interactive format may not lend itself to this type of broadcast.
- b. The planners for the College Highway parcel also held a meeting with abutters to the property. The meeting was not that well attended; however, some concerns were raised by Lynn Drive residents that Lynn Drive will end up being a throughway and not dead end as it is now.

5. Cost Estimate for OPM and Special Town Meeting

- a. A discussion was held regarding whether or not funding will be requested for one OPM that would be shared between the Senior Center and public Safety Complex projects. Members noted that this will likely be the way in which the project is presented to the town.
- b. A Special Town Meeting will be held on March 22, 2025, likely in the morning at Norris School. Articles will be presented to request funding for one OPM for both projects, and separate architects for the senior center and public safety complex projects.
- c. J. Cain spoke with Andrew Lafosse, a member of the prior Senior Center Feasibility Committee regarding potential fees for an OPM and architect. These fees will likely be in the range of 10% of the construction cost for the OPM, and 10% of the construction cost for the architect.
- d. The projected construction cost for the senior center is approximately \$12.5 million. The construction cost for a new Public Safety Complex is still being evaluated but may be in the range of \$20 million. A discussion was held regarding the potential fee for the OPM if one OPM is selected for both facilities.
- e. A discussion was held regarding the next steps for the senior center project if the Town Meeting warrant is voted down.
- f. T. Palmer made a motion that the Town approve the necessary funds for one OPM to serve both the senior center and public safety complex projects, as well as an architect for only the senior center project. D. Gasperini seconded the motion and it passed with all members voting in favor.
- g. Town meeting articles relating to OPM and architectural fees for the College Highway parcel development need to be submitted prior to the Selectboard meeting on March 4, 2025, and then posted by March 8, 2025.

6. Update on Public Safety Complex

- a. The Public Safety Complex Committee is still waiting for updated conceptual design drawings and an associated cost estimate from the architect. Once this information

is received, this committee will be in a better position to determine fees for the OPM and architect.

7. Miscellaneous

- a. A discussion was held regarding whether or not the Senior Center Building committee will remain the same once the project moves into the final design phase.

8. Next Meeting

- a. The next Senior Center Building Committee meeting will be held in person, and via zoom, at Town Hall on February 27, 2025 at 12:30 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 pm.

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