

Meeting Minutes
AQUATICS FACILITIES BUILDING COMMITTEE

Long Hill Room, Trumbull Town Hall

Thursday, January 2, 2020

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jason Marsh at 7:00 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance:

Present

Jason Marsh
Brian Moore
April Lange
Jay Orenstein
Dennis Mucci
Mary Markham

Absent

Paul Verbitsky
Mark Block
Michael Redgate

Also Present:

Vicki Tesoro, Trumbull First Selectman; Kathleen McGannon, Chief Administrative Officer, Trumbull; Mary Beth Thornton, Chairman, Trumbull Town Council; George Wiles, Architect and his associate Anna DePaz, Leslie Jennings-Lax-Old Dike Rd, Stephanie Sudikoff-Old Dike Rd, Janet Epstein-Old Dike Rd, Joanne Parsons, Pinewood Trail, K. Ebert-Pinewood Trail, Doug Ebert-Pinewood Trail, Louise Perkins-Old Dike Rd.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Mr. Mucci, seconded by Ms. Lange to accept Meeting Minutes of Dec. 12, 2019.

Vote: 6-0-0

Moved by Ms. Markham, seconded by Mr. Mucci to take agenda items out of order.

Vote: 6-0-0

Mr. Wiles gave a presentation of the site plan and a recap on where the Aquatics Committee is at with the project.

Public Comments

Several Trumbull residents were present to learn about the Committee's work and to offer comments and ask questions:

Residents offered the following concerns and comments, and there was discussion on some of these items:

- One concern was on the accessibility to emergency exits in the pool facility.
- There's concern because this design iteration did not include the splash pad and playground - is there a plan to include a family-friendly facility in lieu of this? Mr. Marsh commented that it is not certain that splash pad will be going away – this is just one iteration of the plan.
- Another concern is with number of parking spaces available – not enough spaces might cause cars to park on residential streets. Will there be sufficient space to allow fire truck access if necessary? Issues with wetlands/water drainage in the parking lot. Residents also worried about noise and light pollution and feel will adversely impact quality of life in their area.
- Concern about increased traffic flow into Beach Memorial and how it will adversely affect the residential area. Mr. Marsh stated that a traffic study would be done if this plan goes forward.
- Mr. Marsh continued to stress that the Committee wants to be a good citizen and work with the residents. Nothing will be foisted on the town if there is no appetite for it.
- Another concern is how increased traffic will affect the safety of walkers on the trailheads at Beach.
- Feeling that the aquatics building design is too stark and modern and doesn't fit in with the character of the neighborhood's park-like environment.
- One resident questioned if there was any consideration given to the impact large construction equipment would have on neighborhood streets, i.e., streets being blocked off.
- One resident brought up FEMA mapping of Beach Memorial Park.
- Concerns with environmental impact of cutting down trees.
- Residents feel that Wetlands Committee will have to study this site.

Mr. Marsh went over all of the site properties that the Committee considered for the pool facility and explained how and why the Committee decided to focus on Beach Memorial.

Mr. Marsh also explained how the decision to go with a 10-lane pool was made and the impetus for having a 10-lane pool is so that multiple users can use the pool at the same time and thus increase users' schedule flexibility.

Ms. Thornton stated that the Town Council put aside money to do a survey to find out if the Town has the appetite for a pool facility as well as another community facility. Ms.

Thornton stated that the survey will give insight to the degree of interest the residents have and that will inform the Town Council's decision.

Mr. Marsh explained how the process will proceed: Mr. Marsh, as Head of Aquatics Committee, will give report to Town Council on Committee's findings. We then expect a survey to be done, and the survey will go out to town residents within weeks. Once survey results are in, Committees will report recommendation to Town Council. Town Council will then vote yes or no. If the vote is a "yes", then more work will be done to firm up costs and plans and the expectation would be to have a proposal put out to voters on November ballot.

Mr. Marsh thanked the residents for attending the meeting and he re-iterated that this is a continuing dialogue and all town residents are welcome to come to Committee meetings and give their input. The Committee will not impose anything that's not wanted by residents.

One resident asked if Mr. Wiles would be willing to go to Pinewood Lake Assn. meeting to address the members about the Aquatics facility project.

Mr. Marsh said that he has reached out to 3 construction firms to get their bids to do firmer cost estimates on the facility. He will present the estimates to the Committee when he gets them.

Mr. Marsh mentioned that he will be reporting to Town Council next Monday, and he's hearing that they will want a further discussion on the survey.

Mr. Wiles will do another proposal to put a more traditional façade on aquatics facility.

Ms. Markham added and everyone agreed that the sprinkler lot and playground need to be included in the next design iteration as they are very popular and get a lot of use.

Some discussion took place on storm water management. Mr. Wiles stated that post development, the water quality should be improved.

Mr. Wiles also commented on traffic situation – there are empirical studies that will determine impact of traffic.

Mr. Moore reiterated that we are charged with recommending a facility site, and some of the issues raised are not part of this Committee's charge.

Moved by Ms. Markham, seconded by Ms. Lange to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 pm.

Vote: 6-0-0

Submitted by

Marisa Petriello