

Meeting Minutes

TVFRC Building Committee Meeting – Special Meeting

Tuesday January 17, 2023 - 7:00 pm

Long Hill Room

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ray Baldwin at 7:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance

Present:

Ray Baldwin
Dan Sacco
MaryBeth Thornton
Preston Merritt
Steve Lemoine
Bruce Silverstone
Dawn Cantafio

Absent:

Michael Lombardo

Also Present:

George Wiles, Architect at Wiles Architects
Rina Bakalar, Town of Trumbull Economic & Community Development Director
Kevin Bova, Town of Trumbull Purchasing Agent
Dan Martin, Assistant Finance Director, Town of Trumbull
George Estrada, Director of Public Works, Town of Trumbull
Jim Nugent, Attorney, Town of Trumbull
Graham Bissett, Head of Trumbull VFW
Ernie Foito
Frank Kinecki
Robert Mraz

Public Comment – None.

Approval of Meeting Minutes from September 14, 2022

Moved by Ms. Thornton and seconded by Mr. Merritt to approve the September 14, 2022 Meeting Minutes. **Vote: 6-1-0** (D. Cantafio abstained because she was absent on Sept. 14, 2022)

Motion to accept and pay for WIX for period 12/22-12/23 in the amount of \$408.38

Moved by Ms. Thornton and seconded by Mr. Sacco to accept for payment the WIX invoice for period of Dec. 2022-Dec. 2023 (upgraded website to include pledging and billing) in the amount of \$408.38. **Vote: 7-0-0**

Moved by Mr. Merritt and seconded by Mr. Sacco to combine the invoices for \$31.16 (for registration of website) with the invoice for \$408.38. **Vote: 7-0-0**

Moved by Mr. Sacco and seconded by Mr. Silverstone to pay the combined invoices of \$408.38 + \$31.16. **Vote: 7-0-0**

Report on septic system design and planting plan —George Wiles

Mr. Wiles noted that the septic system was well received in parking lot site and is more economical than the original site. The revised septic design will save significant money. Mr. Wiles is in communication with the Wetlands Commission.

Regarding the planting, the Conservation Committee has volunteered to take leadership on planting. Mr. Wiles had a discussion on plantings, pollinated gardens, native plants. Mr. Paris is on board with this, and now needs to be submitted to Wetlands. Once application is submitted to Wetlands and everything is complete the estimated time for will be approximately 3 months.

Mr. Estrada created and shared an outline on the timeline of submission to Wetlands. A question asked was do we have plans drawn, and Mr. Wiles said that they are 95% done with construction documents. As soon as we get Wetlands approval and funding, we're ready to go.

Mr. Wiles's estimated square foot cost is about \$325/sq ft. and the Town's estimate is \$425/sq ft. Things keep changing – costs haven't regressed since pre-Covid prices. If we can get out to bid by spring – can get good costs. A discussion took place on cost of materials.

Mr. Wiles said if we are unsure that project doesn't fit grant amount, we can define a base building and then add alternate pieces as we go: define base building and then define the add alternates, for example, fire pit, paved parking lot, some lighting. When we can afford it, we put it in.

Project funding status & timeline - Rina Bakalar

Ms. Bakalar updated Committee on where we're at in accessing the grant monies. We've been awarded funds, but we are not under contract yet. The congressional delegation is supportive of project, Ms. Bakalar submitted a new supplemental request. Now need to push this with delegation to get it moving—all are on board and seems like we have support.

We don't know when the state of CT bonding meeting will take place yet.

For the federal money in order to go to contract, we need to file an ERR with HUD. This is an enormous undertaking. With answer to septic question, we now need wetlands approval – this is the last thing missing to file ERR. Then get clearance and then get contract.

Ms. Bakalar will apply for a planting grant.

Discussion of project scope

The planting and dredging of the pond was discussed. Mr. Baldwin asked if the Town would be able to do the planting while dredging took place.

Mr. Estrada stated that last week he received the soil testing results and the soil will need to be removed from the site. Still no date on dredging. Ms. Bakalar said there may be grants for dredging.

Mr. Baldwin suggested forming a subcommittee to work on list of add alts.

Ms. Bakalar suggested that the committee members write letters of support for the center to congressional delegation and governor.

Going forward, Mr. Merritt will check the PO box for any incoming donations.

Ms. Bakalar needs to update some construction details on website (will coordinate with Bill Chin).

Mr. Lemoine thinks the add alts. is a great idea. The Add Alt subcommittee will include Steve Lemoine, Graham Bisset, Ernie Foito and will coordinate with Mr. Wiles to work on list of add alts. Mr. Baldwin will reach out to Chief Lombardo on adding a member from the police department to represent first responders.

Donations and pledges- Dan Sacco

Mr. Sacco provided an update. We are not pushing naming rights because of time frame, but we already have over \$30,000 in commitments for naming rights. Haven't even started plaques yet.

Other Business: None

Adjournment

Moved by Mr. Merritt and seconded by Mr. Lemoine to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm.

Vote: 7-0-0

Submitted by

Marisa Petriello