

Yarmouth Library Planning Committee
Minutes of Meeting
January 18, 2022

Attending Committee Members: Linda Callahan, Joseph Baker, George Bovino, Mary Reardon Johnson, Sue Loveland, Will Rubenstein and Richard Simon.

Attending from the Library Department: Jane Cain

Attending from the Public: Karen Spiewak

The virtual Zoom Meeting was called to order shortly after 4:00 PM.

1. As required by state open meeting law, a public notice was read and a rollcall vote was conducted to authorize use of the online meeting method. All LPC members voted in the affirmative. The meeting was recorded and is available for viewing at <https://www.youtube.com/c/TownofYarmouthMassachusetts/videos>
2. The meeting was opened to public comment. Karen Spiewak, who is now a year-round Yarmouth resident expressed an interest in the work of the committee and spoke about her involvement in fundraising for a new 27,000 sf library (\$7.6m) completed in 2007 in Charlton MA (pop. ~13,000). She offered a number of ideas that she felt helped build community support and said she would be a future resource for the LPC. Link with information about the Charlton library follows: (<https://www.charltonlibrary.org/Pages/Index/183619/history>). The committee expressed their appreciation for her insights and intent to work with her in the future. The meeting continued.
3. The minutes of Dec 14th were approved by unanimous rollcall vote.
4. Notes from meeting with Bill Scott, Assistant Town Director on Dec 21, 2021 had been emailed to the committee by Jane Cain.
 - survey premature but use of public domain data okay (town census/voter roll)
 - Library 2.0 contrast existing to what it could be (using other town examples)
 - multi-use facility option to leverage common areas (restrooms, meeting rooms)
5. With a focus on line items that could be used to support the LPC initiative, Jane Cain summarized the Library Departments recent presentations to the Capital Budget and Finance Committees regarding FY2023 annual budgets that will be considered for approval at the Spring Town Meeting (April 26, 2022)
6. Linda Callahan recapped the decisions reached at the January 11, 2022 Land Disposition Committee regarding the Christmas Way/Old Town House Road parcels, one of the few town owned sites large enough for a new town library. The LDC recommended retaining the land for town use, citing conservation, well head protection and potential for library/housing projects. The link for this meeting video - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Oj_BC_Qvnl

Noting access to these parcels seems to be an issue as well as its proximity to

the new middle school; Chairperson Callahan plans to speak with the School Superintendent to ask about possible issues (e.g. combined access, safety, etc.)

7. Mary Reardon Johnson and Linda Callahan reported on the January 11, 2022 'Housing Summit' to discuss affordable housing issues. A summary of the summit was also reported in the Cape Cod Times. Members of the LPC will continue to participate in meetings which would have an impact on site options. The link for this meeting video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=33g7oEk05FI>

Separately, Chairperson Callahan had met with the Executive Director of the Yarmouth Housing Authority (Wendy Ohlson) regarding the parcel adjacent to the Senior Center; Wendy suggested contacting Laura Shufelt at the Mass Housing Partnership.

8. Draft input to the 2021 Annual Town Report has been provided by the Library Department, Library Board and Library Planning Committee, with the LPC section recapping findings of the LSahC that the existing facilities were half the size for the town's service population and a single new facility was the most cost effective solution.
9. The LPC will meet next on Feb 15th at 4:00PM. Prior to the meeting, members will respond individually to the Chairperson to suggest common FAQ questions used by library planning committees in towns with a successful outcome.

A motion to adjourn was accepted by unanimous rollcall vote about 5:15 PM.