

WPC meeting minutes 2/13/2024

5:30 Call to order

Members present: Annie Schools , Dave Ransom, Bill Baker, Rebecca Pitre,
Tom Pitre, Jeff Tilton (by telephone)
Visitor, Library trustee Kimberly Mann,

I.By-laws presented

- A.Bill Baker made motion that the by-laws be accepted -2nd by Tom Pitre
1.By-laws passed
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II.Annie Schools opened discussion on library grants.

A. Two ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act)grants, funded by the Capital Projects Fund,
are available for VT libraries.
Waterville library board is currently gathering information in hopes of submitting
an
application, to the U.S. Treasury Capital Project Funds, due March 12th.

Another

ARPA grant is available this fall and will be pursued as well.

1. Schools stated the libraries main focus is on:
parking lot, basement renovation, and ADA compliant: ramp, external
door ,chair lift and 2 bathrooms

B. Rebecca Pitre voiced reservations:

1. There is a need for inclusion of the historical of Historical Society before the
grant
is further pursued.
2. The library is a part time entity with no librarian is there a need for these
renovations?
3. Who will maintain these new amenities?
4. ADA compliancy: There is no actual list of required renovations provided by the
ADA, it depends on many variables within the project. We need many
volunteers
to access what the needs are and which needs they would like to pursue.

a. Bill Baker agreed with voiced reservations. Commented on the division
between the historical society and the library, and the need to proceed

together

on this issue. The historical society should be given equal access to the
building as well.

C. In reply to these reservations

- 1.Annie Schools relayed that Kathy Wright , historical committee chair, is on
board
with the pursuing of this or other grants. Schools also explained that the grant
is

based on a 'point system'. And that yes, although we are low on the volunteer section we can make up those points elsewhere. So the fact that our library is part time, would not exclude us from applying and/or receiving the grant. Schools commented that any help and input from the community would be greatly appreciated.

2. Kimberly Mann, having some grant writing experience, said she is working on a reasonable grant wish list. Noting that they must be specific. Mann, questioned if we have the time to get all requirements in order by March deadline. But that any info collected at present, can be used for another grant available in the fall.

Kimberly, stated that the grant is not specific to ADA compliancy. And that according to the grant we aren't required to have regular hours.

C. Jeff Tilton- raised many poignant questions/facts relating to grants.

1. Who will be the recipient? The town of Waterville or the library?
The town owns the building. Would the town have to apply because they own the building?
2. Who is responsible for the administration of the grant?
3. Is there a portion of the grant that can be designated for administration?
4. Is it a "reimbursement" grant and would the library/town be willing to pay upfront?
What are their finances as the grant most likely will not cover all the expenses?
(It was brought out that the library finances all go through the town clerk.)
5. What exactly does the library own?
6. Reminder that solar panels are going to be placed in the in the back of the building.

Might they be combined with the proposed parking lot?

Possibly pergola type parking with solar panels on top.

7. Tilton also reiterated the "need" should be more clear. Decide on the project and then possibly look for other grants that might supply that need.
 - a. Annie Schools, stated that it seems the ARPA grant from Capital Project Funds would cover the items the library is proposing.
8. Tilton suggested we scope the needs to be defined and put it to the select board.

Also, budget the things that will not be covered in this grant.

D. Bill Baker agreed the issues the library are concerned with are all well worth pursuing but hoped that the many other needs of this building would not be neglected.

Baker stated he feels that this building has many other needs that are more urgent

then what the library is pursuing. An example given was the town clerks space and the upgrading needed to better protect town records

- E. Schools asked what should the WPC bring/present to the Selectboard concerning the ARPA grant.
 - F. Tom Pitre suggested that discussion with the Selectboard should take place. Also that the library and historical society should both be involved with the discussion.
No motion made
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III. Emergency shelter

- A. Annie, asked do we want to pursue this project this year?
Melissa from LCPC could consult with us to make a shelter.
Carlos Martin has a list of ATV's and private homes willing to help incase of a disaster.
- B. It was agreed that our town could make due with what resources and people willing to help incase of a natural disaster.
- C. Dave Ransom gave heed that we don't forget about climate change when making our decisions.

Tom Pitre made motion that we abandon the search for a relief shelter
2nd by Annie schools
Committee agreed

IV. Removal of Shed behind Town Hall

- A. Annie Schools relayed information that there are 3 objects to be moved from the shed before it's demolition and removal:
 - Fryer-going to Douglas Barry
 - grill-going to Amanda Martin
 - antique coke cooler- Jeff Tilton has volunteered to store it at his residence until the Historical Society can take it.
- B.. Schools proposed 3 options for shed removal. Choosing one as our recommendation to be given to the selectboard:
 - 1. Contract it out- purposal given \$1,420
 - 2. dumpster \$495 @ volunteers to tear down shed
 - 3. Total volunteer help. Annie said it would be \$190 per ton to be reimbursed by the town.Bill Baker graciously offered to pay out of pocket \$710 half of the contractors fee

Rebecca Pitre made a motion to contract it out
2nd by Annie.
All were in favor.

Annie will give our recommendation to the Selectmen.

C.Rebecca Pitre made mention to possibly removing wooden trash bins as well,
as the trash is not removed on a regular basis.

D. Bill Baker commented on picnic table behind the town hall. Needs to be moved
back to a visible spot on the green. Suggestion for the Town Hall Committee
to patrol the building periodically

Tom Pitre made a motion to adjourn
2nd Bill Baker

Meeting adjourned 7:13