



BEDFORD DEPOT PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Town Hall • Bedford, Massachusetts 01730

Meeting of February 20, 2008

MINUTES

Committee members in attendance: Donald Corey (DC); Joseph Piantedosi (JP); Jim Shea (JS)

Ex-officio committee members in attendance: Angelo Colao, Selectmen liaison; Rick Reed (RR), Town Manager; Richard Warrington (RW), DPW Director

Ex-officio committee members not in attendance: Richard Jones, Facilities Director

Chairman JP called the meeting to order at 3:23 P.M. at the railroad car at 120 South Road.

RW said that he contacted the Massachusetts Highway Department (MHD) for information about the Freight House renovation project. MHD's representative told him that the contract has not yet been awarded. MHD is to contact the Town when they are ready to proceed.

RR reported that the Facilities Department is working on an RFP for design services for the Depot roof replacement.

RR said that the Town has advertised the Depot rental RFP. Four parties have requested copies of the RFP so far. Proposals are due by March 24.

JS proposed that the Committee be proactive about publicizing the RFP's availability. RR suggested that we invite the *Bedford Minuteman* and *Boston Globe* to provide coverage. JS offered to contact the *Minuteman*, and JP said that he would contact the *Globe*. JS suggested that the Chamber of Commerce be given a copy of the RFP.

RR said that the Town formally notified Varney Creative that the Town plans to evict this tenant from the Depot. An eviction hearing is scheduled for March 21.

The Committee inspected some of the work that has been accomplished on the railroad car. JP commented that the renovations are looking good. RW reported that installation of window trim is to occur next. He wishes to finish the remaining major project pieces soon. Numerous small tasks would be completed over time. RW, consultant Dan O'Brien and JS are to meet to

prioritize the remaining work. RW said that he intends to have a security alarm system installed in the rail car. He expressed that he is a bit concerned about how much longer the rail car account may remain open.

RR distributed a Depot Park Revolving Fund financial statement dated 2/20/08. The current account balance is \$73,379.86. He noted that Varney Creative's rent is credited to the year when it was due, not necessarily when it was received.

RR said that he may charge Town Counsel legal fees to the Depot Park Revolving Fund. JP asked whether the Town could recover its legal costs in court.

RR distributed a draft of the proposed Article 11, authorization for long-term lease of the Depot, that is to be presented at Annual Town Meeting.

DC made a motion to accept the minutes of the 1/16/08 meeting. JP seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.

JS inquired whether the Selectmen have reacted to the Committee's Depot Park recommendations as expressed in the chairman's letter dated January 16, 2008. RR said that he would schedule this subject for a future Selectmen's meeting.

JS suggested that residents be updated on the status of the Freight House project through a *Bedford Byline* article.

At 4:15 P.M., JS made a motion to adjourn the meeting. JP seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Submitted by

Jim Shea, Clerk

These minutes were approved by a unanimous vote of the Committee at its meeting of 4/02/08.