



BEDFORD DEPOT PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Town Hall • Bedford, Massachusetts 01730

Meeting of March 25, 2009

MINUTES

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

Ex-officio committee members in attendance: Angelo Colao (AC), Selectman Liaison; Richard Jones, Facilities Director (RJ); Rick Reed, Town Manager (RR); Richard Warrington, DPW Director (RW)

Chairman JP called the meeting to order at 3:41 P.M. at the railroad car at 120 South Road.

JP proposed that the Committee attempt to pick a date for an “open house” at the Freight House and railroad car. He noted that JS prepared an informal list of tasks that would need to be completed prior to opening the site to the public. Copies of the list were distributed to the Committee members.

RW provided an update on the railroad car renovation project. He said that three more work days with two DPW employees are planned. JS observed that on March 14, the DPW crew and consultant Dan O’Brien installed a refurbished pilot (plow) and a replacement engine cover. RW said he hopes to have the railroad car work completed in about three weeks.

JP inquired when the consultant would be paid for his additional services. RW replied that payment would be the final step in the project.

RW reported that he asked the Massachusetts Highway Department (MHD) for its consent to access the Freight House to start the planned interior fit-out work. A response has not yet been received, he said. If he does not hear from MHD by the end of the week, RW plans to phone the agency for a verbal okay.

RW said that MHD’s contractor has scheduled completion of the exterior painting and landscaping for next week. He has not heard from the kiosk manufacturer since submitting artwork to the company.

RJ gave an update about the Freight House interior fit-out project. Materials have been ordered for the flooring. He met with JS to discuss options for cabinets and countertops. Tomorrow, RJ intends to visit the building with color charts to make final selections. He plans to hire contractors to install the hardwood floor and the countertops. Account numbers have been established for the project’s special appropriations.

JS asked about the process for obtaining occupancy and health permits. RJ said that he would coordinate local permitting and that he does not anticipate difficulties with this process.

The Committee discussed the steps that would be necessary to open the Freight House to the public. JP proposed that the Committee meet next on Tuesday, April 14, at 3:30 P.M., to plan for an opening date.

RJ conveyed that the contractor for the Depot roof project does not intend to begin work until the shingles are received. The contractor expects the job will take three to four weeks to complete, he said.

RJ distributed a Depot Park Revolving Fund statement dated 3/25/09. The current account balance is \$52,360.09. RJ noted that among recent Facilities Department expenses is rental of a trash dumpster that was used to discard a former tenant's abandoned belongings.

AC said that someone asked him about the rental fee for a Depot office unit. JS added that a local commercial realtor expressed that one of her clients had an interest in the building, too.

RR joined the meeting at 4:11 P.M. JP provided him with a brief summary of the Committee's earlier business.

DC commented that Fay Russo and Thomas Larkin of Town Center, Inc., wish to tour the railroad car.

JP invited motions regarding past meeting minutes. DC made a motion to accept the minutes of the March 5 meeting. JP seconded the motion; and it passed unanimously.

At 4:16 P.M., JS made a motion to adjourn the meeting. DC seconded the motion; and it passed unanimously.

The Committee members inspected the Freight House interior as they left the meeting.

Submitted by

Jim Shea, Clerk

These minutes were approved by a unanimous vote of the Committee at its meeting of 4/14/09.