

MEMORIAL SCHOOL REUSE COMMITTEE - Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 1, 2023, Nashua Room in the Prescott Building at 6:30 PM

Call to Order & Administration:

MSRC Members present: Daniel Lapen, Sherry Cutler, Carolyn Read, Ann Frantz, Cynthia Lefebvre.

Daniel Lapen, call to order: 7:04 PM.

Due to technical difficulties with the 'hybrid' Zoom format, the meeting did not start until 7:04 PM. It was advised by Kate Hodges to hold the meeting but do not motion for votes due to a late start.

I. Minutes from the 01-14-2023 meeting could not be voted on at this time.

II. Discussion of Action Items:

1. Daniel Lapen reviewed the history of the current MSRC, and how it is moving towards an Engineering/Design study for a Community Activity Center and Pavilion at the current Memorial School site. He also discussed the steps that were made to submit an application to the Community Preservation Act Committee for funding of the Engineering/Design study.

III. New Business:

- A. Win Clark has resigned from the MSRC and submitted an email to Kate Hodges. It is unclear at this time if another person from the recreation department will replace him.

IV. Public Comment:

Victoria Petracca expressed her concern about using the Memorial School for anything other than Affordable Housing.

Jay Moody would also like to see senior housing be built on the land.

Kendra Dickinson would also like to see senior housing.

Mary Zadroga expressed interest in a Community Activity Center and a place for public gatherings.

Dick Trussell asked how the committee would move forward with funding of an Engineering/Design study. Daniel Lapen mentioned that in addition to CPA funding, other grants would be applied for.

Jen Lapen expressed her concerns about trying to eliminate Pauline Thayer's bequest of the land being used for recreational purpose. She fears that people may not continue to donate land or funds to the town if their Wills are disputed or not honored.

Pamela Locke understands that senior & affordable housing is needed, but the land should stay as recreational use. Having additional area for Lancaster residents to come together is an added benefit to the town.

Stephanie Stanton would like to see affordable housing built on the land.

Denise Hurley would like to see affordable housing.

V. Communications and Scheduled Appearances:

No Scheduled appearances.

Next MSRC meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, February 15, 2023, at 6:30 PM.

VI. Adjournment: 8:06 PM