



## TOWN OF NEWTOWN

### COMMUNITY CENTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

JUNE 28, 2017

7:00 PM

TOWN HALL SOUTH, NEWTOWN, CT

**PRESENT:** Bill Buchler, Maureen Crick Owen, Brian Hartgraves, Carla Kron, Amy Mangold, Kinga Walsh, 1 public.

**ABSENT:** Andy Clure, Nicole Hockley, Brian Leidlein, David Wheeler.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. Hartgraves called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:09 pm.

**VOTER COMMENT:** Is there an obligation to report to GE, regarding expenses of the community center. Answer – there is a responsibility to report to the Town, not to GE, regarding expenses.

**MINUTES:** MS. KRON MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 14, 2017 MEETING. SECOND BY MS. MANGOLD. ALL IN FAVOR.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** Mr. Hartgraves informed the group that future CCAC meetings will be in Town Hall South, preceded by the Organizational Subcommittee meetings.

### OLD BUSINESS:

#### Subcommittee reports:

*Organizational Subcommittee:* Ms. Kron said they are reviewing two organizational structures, 1) integrated with Parks and Rec. under the Parks and Rec. Director and First Selectman, and 2) the Community Center stands independent from the Parks and Rec. Department. Ms. Walsh said it is important to figure out the relationship between Parks and Rec. for either organizational structure.

*Grants Donations & Funding Subcommittee:* Mr. Buchler said that this area has not been covered yet, future fundraising. Ms. Kron referred to money for membership scholarships which can be included with fundraising. Ms. Walsh would like to discuss fundraising that may have already been brought to the attention of the Parks and Rec.

*Design Subcommittee:* Ms. Kron brought up best practices for collaboration with the FFH Authority, CCAC, design team. Ms. Walsh suggested CCAC also attending the upcoming P & Z meeting. Ms. Kron encouraged all members to attend the P&Z meeting. Ms. Mangold to look further into programming for the multipurpose rooms. Ms. Mangold read a statement from a trade publication stating the positive aspects of a multigenerational facility. Brief discussion of pool pass fees. Currently Treadwell offers free pool passes for those 60 and over.

*Communications Subcommittee:* Ms. Walsh said that attendance was considered low at the two community outreach events. Minimal expenses incurred, \$200, an A-frame and window posters. In the future, buy ad in The Bee to reach a wider audience. Ms. Mangold thanked the group for putting the event together, good job on the presentation, and overall lack of negativity. Ms. Walsh said she met with the Town Clerk, Debbie Aurelia Halstead, redid community center link, 4 subcommittees listed on the website, so it is clearer. Ms. Walsh to put up on Facebook. 1,100 views for outreach event, invited 200-300 people, only 7 said yes. Ms. Kron thought the communications were more than adequate. Thank you to Lexi Leidlein for distributing flyers around town. Ms. Walsh said the planning and zoning meeting is July 6, put that meeting on Facebook, in the agenda, a public hearing. Maybe next communication can occur after the P&Z meeting.

**Debrief of Community Outreach:** Good feedback at the events. Discussion of concern regarding the drop-off area at the Community Center. Mr. Hartgraves said to bring this up to the design committee.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **Time Line Discussion & Review**

*Establish a rough timeline of activities to guide us through center opening* – Mr. Buchler asked what are the milestones, P&Z meeting, etc., key milestone dates, membership scholarships, fundraising for pieces not included, add on to calendar from Rusty Malik. Mr. Hartgraves suggested this topic could be addressed in the communication subcommittee group. Include key activities like ground-breaking, director hire, continued community outreach, gov't reviews/approval dates.

### **Coordination/Collaboration with Other Groups**

*Legacy Foundations, Arts Council, Forest Association & Environmental Groups, Farmers Market, NYA, Chamber of Commerce/SHOP, NHS -- around student community hours, others.* Mr. Buchler suggested more collaboration with other groups and to find all the various heads of other organizations get together and collaborate. Coordinate with the library, environmental groups, help with the community center, all should be part of that. Invite these groups to a future meeting. Ms. Walsh asked for the objective of the meeting with these other groups. Mr. Buchler said to find out how other groups may want to plug in, be involved, how does the organization benefit from the community center. Ms. Mangold referred to the library and space needs for programming, the community center could offer space needs similar to that.

**Legacy Space:** No reports. 21<sup>st</sup> end date for discussion

**VOTER COMMENT:** None.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Ms. Mangold asked if the community center would have a specific name. The Newtown Community Center. Discussion of naming discussed.

**ADJOURNMENT: THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS MS. CRICK OWEN MOVED TO ADJOURN. SECOND BY MS. WALSH. ALL IN FAVOR.** Meeting adjourned at 8:19 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

June Sgobbo, Clerk

*These are draft minutes and as such are subject to correction by the Community Center Advisory Committee at the next regular meeting. All corrections will be determined in the minutes at which they were corrected.*