

**Town of Richmond
Town Center and Library Committee
Minutes –January, 13, 2022**

Present: Christine Werneke, Josh Arneson, Laurie Dana, Amy Wardwell, Jeff Forward, Dave Healy, Martha Nye, Rebecca Rouille

I. Welcome & Public Comment – None

II. Additions or Deletions to Agenda

III. Items for Presentation or Discussion

a. Vermont Department of Historic Preservation (VDHP) Grant

After some discussion regarding the requirements of the VDHP grant, Laurie will forward Christine & Josh some language for use at Tuesday, 1/18 Selectboard to ask for approval to accept the grant and to approve \$14,801 in matching funds from the Town Center Fund.

b. Next steps in Community Visioning meetings

The committee discussed setting up community visioning meetings for the following groups of community members:

- **Staff** (including Police and Fire) – Thursday, Feb. 10 from 8:30-9:30 am
- **Tenants** (including OCC) – Thursday, February 3 from 7-8:30 p.m.
This group should include Post Office—Josh will reach out to interim Postmaster to see whether he feels able to participate since he is temporary and just started in Richmond.
- **Town & Informal Town Committees** – Thursday, February 17 from 7-8:30
- **School** – There was discussion of engaging school children from elementary, middle and high schools but Jeff observed that schools and school staff are stretched thin with COVID responses. The Committee wants to come back to how to engage this group in the fall.
- Other groups to be scheduled include WSBA, business people, Richmond Rescue and others who might use the building.

Laurie asked to revisit setting up a special email address for people to send comments regarding the building. She observed that not everyone likes to speak up in large meetings or they might have further thoughts after meetings have concluded. Josh will look into the cost of setting up an additional richmondvt.gov email address which feels more official & secure than a free gmail account.

Christine mentioned that our next step is to determine a list of themes that relate to the building such as energy, historic features, technology, etc. that would help frame the discussions. Amy will look into this as there are many lists available online that are used by building designers. The committee will look at finalizing this at the March meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.