

**Town of Richmond
Town Center and Library Committee
Minutes –December 2, 2021**

Present: Christine Werneke, Josh Arneson, Laurie Dana, Amy Wardwell, Jeff Forward

Welcome & Public Comment – None

- I. Additions or Deletions to Agenda**
- II. Items for Presentation or Discussion**

- a. Debrief on Visioning meeting**

The committee felt that the first community conversation went well with about 16-20 attendees in person and on Zoom. There were many good suggestions about groups to connect with and areas to explore. Meeting notes from Laurie and Amy will provide guidance as we go forward.

- b. Identify groups to engage in future visioning**

Tenants – Town staff, Police Dept. Historical Society, Senior Center, MMCTV and Radiate. A discussion with Post Office employees should be separate and try to include a management level staff person (regional)—Jeff commented this might be hard. Definitely hold til after holidays for Post Office.

Town Committees – Chairs and/or others from the various Town Committee Christine showed us will be invited to our meeting on Dec. 16. Christine to draft email.

**** Tenants discussion should follow soon and recommendation is that this meeting could be during the daytime, perhaps a virtual “brown bag lunch” meeting. Josh and Christine will look at dates—Jeff and Laurie said they are available during the daytime.**

Racial Equity and Climate Action Committee Chairs and Members – perhaps combine these unofficial town groups.

Fire Department/Rescue – Laurie will explore taking 10 minutes at a business meeting for either of these

Groups that use Meeting & Storage Space – OCC, Recreation, meeting space users

Business community – Western Slopes might be most representative of this group. Possibly Williston/Richmond Rotary?

PTA or other parent groups

Middle & High Schoolers – Jeff will talk with MMU Principal and Amy will talk with Camel’s Hump principal about appropriate classes or other ways to engage these groups via school. Laurie suggested a teen gathering, perhaps with pizza and/or engaging Radiate to lead an art project around this.

Neighboring land owners – They could have concerns about both construction and changes to site, lighting, etc.

Sr. Center & Historical Society -- Laurie will contact Martha Nye (Sr. Center) and Fran Thomas (Historical Society) about the best way to engage their boards and members in a group discussion. Thinking perhaps attending an existing meeting and asking for 10-15 minutes might work.

Local Artists & Craftspeople – their design input would be valuable and could connect with how to incorporate their work into the design/décor of the building

- c. Start to identify specific questions for future meetings**

Committee members liked the idea of posing questions around some broad thematic areas, for example:

Design – maintain the historic exterior (example is Hartford), a hybrid (example of Pierson Library and Waterbury) or go contemporary (South Burlington)

Materials – Local materials, easy maintenance, what else?

Space – How do interior spaces work, flow, keep current tenants, meeting spaces. Are there kinds of spaces missing?

Technology – Current and future technology needs, technology to provide access to all

Energy Efficiency & Climate Change – What level of energy efficiency (use LEED definitions per Jeff?). Important to consider future climate events like flooding.

Safety – How to maintain day-to-day safety and prepare for serious event, ability to lock down?

Site – parking, EV charging, bikes, landscaping, etc.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.