

Select Board
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 4, 2022
Stow Town Hall

Present in the Town Hall: Megan Birch-McMichael, Cortni Frecha, Hector Constantzos, and Town Administrator Denise Dembkoski

Present Virtually: Ingeborg Hegemann Clark and Ellen Sturgis

Chair Birch-McMichael called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. The Chair reminded everyone that the meeting is being recorded.

The Collings Foundation to present information on their next Major Event, October 8th & 9th Battle for the Airfield WWII Re-enactment

The Board virtually met with Rob Collings regarding the upcoming American Heritage Museum event. Chair Birch-McMichael stated that this item was added on for this special meeting as the request did not come in in time for a regular meeting. She reiterated that events should be submitted to the Select Board's office at least three weeks prior to their event.

Mr. Collings apologized for the oversight and outlined their WWII Re-Enactment. Ms. Dembkoski affirmed that all paperwork and departmental approvals have been received.

Ms. Frecha moved that all the necessary conditions and requirements have been met per the June 28, 2017 and October 1, 2021 Settlement Agreements for the Collings Foundation's Major Event, the Battle for the Airfield World War II reenactment, scheduled for Saturday, October 8 and Sunday, October 9, 2022, 8:30 AM to 5 PM, on the Foundation's museum property. This includes permission for pyrotechnics to be used in the battle reenactment taking place between 11-11:45 AM and 3-3:45 PM both days, fulfilling Section 2, part (c) regarding major events in the June 2017 Settlement Agreement between the Collings Foundation and the Town of Stow, with the understanding that this is the second of two permitted pyrotechnic events for the year. Mr. Constantzos seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

The Chair asked for a motion to recess at 6:52pm. Moved by Ms. Frecha, seconded by Mr. Constantzos.

Joint Board Meeting of the Select Board, Finance Committee, and Capital Planning Committee to discuss the Town Hall project

At 7:00 p.m. Chair Birch-McMichael resumed the meeting and welcomed members of the Finance Committee and Capital Planning Committee to the joint board meeting. She reiterated that the meeting was being recorded and stated it was not her intent to open the discussion up to public comment.

In attendance for the Capital Planning Committee were Chair Steve Jelinek, Peter McManus, and alternate member Missy Reed attending in person and Ed DeLuca and Dave Arsenault participating virtually.

In attendance for the Finance Committee were Chair Erica Benedick attending in-person, and Chris Buck and Kevin Gross participating virtually.

The members of the three committees discussed the Town Hall project and the “Five Options Document” prepared by Architect Mills Whitaker and provided by the Town Hall Restoration Committee.

There was consensus from all members that more planning and research needs to go into the potential future use(s) for the Town Hall before any major renovations were to be revisited. All felt the need to save the building, but for the time being only minor repairs and maintenance should be performed.

Members agreed that the following information would be helpful moving forward:

- Information from surrounding towns on their historical buildings regarding how they are used, how much revenue is generated, and who handles the overall building management.
- What is the sale potential of the building?
- What is the vision of the center and how does this building fit it?
- What are the potential uses for the building?
- What does the overall community think about this building?

No votes were taken during the joint board meeting and Chair Birch-McMichael called for a motion to adjourn at 8:38pm. Moved by Ms. Frecha and seconded by Mr. Constantzos. Unanimous on a roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise M. Dembkoski
Town Administrator