

**TOWN OF WILLISTON
COMMUNITY CENTER SCOPING & LIBRARY ASSESSMENT
STEERING COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
July 27, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.**

APPROVED August 10, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT: Greta D'Agostino, Karla Karstens, Lynn McClintock*, MaryClaire McGovern, and Bob Metz
ABSENT: John Butterfield
ADMINISTRATION: Erik Wells, Town Manager; Todd Goodwin, Recreation and Parks Director; Jane Kearns, Library Director; and Erin Dickinson, Assistant to Town Manager
OTHERS PRESENT: Mara Saule, Consultant; Jim Duprey of Black River Design; Bonnie Lord, Assistant Library Director

*Joined by Zoom and left the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

The meeting was held in the Beckett/McGuire Meeting Room, 7900 Williston Road, Williston, VT 05495.

1. Call to Order

Karla Karstens called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Public Comment – General Issues

There were no public comments.

3. Minutes – July 13, 2023

MOTION by Greta D'Agostino and second by MaryClaire McGovern to approve the meeting minutes of July 13, 2023. APPROVED 6-0.

Karstens announced that member Andy Mikell submitted his resignation. The vacancy will not be filled.

4. Library Space Assessment Overview

Consultant Mara Saule provided an overview of fundamental library values and current trends. Library Director Jane Kearns presented data on patron visits, circulation, and program attendance. The Committee discussed future spaces and the required square footage for projected expanded collections. Several follow-up questions were raised regarding the location and accessibility of the library space.

5. Recreation Space Assessment Overview

Recreation and Parks Director Todd Goodwin provided an overview of current spaces used for recreational purposes and the related challenges were discussed. Karla inquired

**COMMUNITY CENTER SCOPING & LIBRARY ASSESSMENT
STEERING COMMITTEE MINUTES – July 27, 2023**

about what a proposed Senior Space could look like and whether it would be under the umbrella of rec programs or a separate space. Todd highlighted a couple of options, recommending programming in the Community Room rather than a separate Senior Center, in line with the trend of multi-generational spaces.

6. Initial Pool Concept Brainstorming

While acknowledging the community's strong desire for a pool, the Committee recognized the need to explore various approaches and potential partnerships. D'Agostino emphasized that having a pool could also contribute to the area's tourism industry and be part of a larger economic picture. Lynn McClintock noted the overwhelming support for a pool. Jim Duprey suggested the involvement of a consultant or the committee to conduct further research on pool comparisons and details. Wells stated that initial data will be reviewed and the pool conversation would continue.

7. Staff

Town Manager Erik Wells reported on the following staff updates:

- a) The Committee had minor edits to the draft Letter to the Editor, which were approved.
- b) A handout was distributed, providing an overview of the frequency of use for the Library Community Room, Police Station meeting room, the Beckett/McGuire meeting room, and the Old Brick Church.
- c) A handout was distributed with a listing of municipal pools within Vermont.
- d) A financial consultant will assist with a cost and operational analysis.

8. Other Business

There was no other business.

9. Set Date for Next Meeting

The Committee will next meet Thursday, August 10, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Hall in the Beckett/McGuire Meeting Room.

10. Adjournment

With no further business and without objection the meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.