

Community Center Steering Committee Meeting
 October 8th 2018
 7:00pm

Meeting Notes

- I. Call to Order
 - Materials passed out and agenda reviewed. Recapped last committee meeting on 9.26. No additional items were requested by committee members or attendees.
- II. Public Forum
- III. Regular Business
 - Follow up on communication with Devin at Mt. Abe. Interested in the idea of more available gym space. Any new information will be passed along to committee members.
 - 1. Consider pursuing 76 West Street Property
 - Timeline
 - Task direction
 - Steering Committee’s job is to explore all options. Town purchasing 76 West St. is not a foregone conclusion.
 - An option for 76 West Street property is for the town to purchase the land, not use it for the new community center and then re-sell it. If the Timeline is moving too quickly for the design phase and a completed plan is not ready in time, the purchase can be made to buy time.
 - 2. Review Options

76 West

PRO	CON
Location Visibility	Too small Property off Tax Roll Cost of demolition Tree removal from construction

Hockey Rink

PRO	CON
Parking Maintain close connection to Mt. Abe Size / Location Lack of surrounding residential plots	No longer able to use skating rink (loss of functional, unique facility) Cost of removing plumbing under the rink

Horse Ring

PRO	CON
Size No Demo Proximity to community garden	Land dedicated to community member Limited parking Visibility Always adjacent to two residential plots

- Related issue: Current Status of skatepark

Rec club owns the land that the skatepark is on, Town of Bristol owns the asphalt and all equipment (ramps, rails etc.)

Should a new community center be built in a different location, would the skate park move with it or stay put?

*If a new community center were to be built using the West St. Property, the skate park would need to be disassembled and moved and/or redesigned.

Skatepark currently gets the most use of a Rec Club land (besides soccer fields). More than tennis court, hockey rink and pump track

If the skatepark is moved to a new location, possible uses for the land include outdoor basketball court.

- Potential of a land swap with Rec club? Horse ring and Hockey Rink for the plot on which the Hub and skatepark currently sit?
 - Pros: Fit full-size gym in building plan, skatepark remains in relatively same location, Hub building could be used up until construction of a new building is completed, and afterwards be converted to storage
- Size of potential basketball court? Middle School size or High School size? Seating?
- Related Topic: How does a new community center fit in with other municipal building or nearby building plans? At some point the legion may choose to put a new building on their land, In the near-future the police station could relocate to where the fire station is currently. Mt Abe school bond as well. All of this is important so that these projects are spread out and not all competing and potentially canceling each other out so to speak.
- Related Topic: Current Teen Center building. It is the feeling of the Rec Club that they don't want to continue to pour money into a dilapidated building. They also don't want to push the Teen Center away, because it has always been on the same property and is an ideal location based on proximity to Mt Abe. Furthermore, the pairing of the skatepark and the Hub has been mutually beneficial.
- Related Topic: Long term, a new community center would allow for a closer relationship or a combination of the rec club and rec department. There should be discussions to combine the two entities. The biggest commonality between the two entities is that their goals are the same. (Important note, the two entities were not one unit that spilt in two, when the rec club was founded, the rec dept. didn't exist) Another important aspect would be that the tax payers wouldn't have to pay any more for this to happen, what they already pay for would just be managed differently
- Informal poll of committee on thoughts for location:
 - land swap with rec club for West St. property 7 in favor. Whether or not to purchase 76 West St. to be decided on later after meeting with the architect.

Actionable Items:

- Setup discussions with Rec Club to gauge their interest. (next board meeting 10/18)
- Continue to work on improving the rec department survey that went out at the last town meeting. The Rec Dept and Hub are working with Kelly Hamshaw and her economics and community development class at UVM to re-vamp the survey and to strategize a better more accessible distribution to the community.
- Continue to research the Deerleap community center plans.
- Put together a fact sheet for the 5 town community members. Should include what is currently paid for rent for Hub, clay studio, BES.