

Town of Hartford, Vermont

Pool Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 29, 2018

Present: Scott Hausler, Joe James, Skip Nalette, Hilde Ojibway, David Sherman, Scott Snyder, Kim Souza, Mike Vanesse, Rick Jurgens (Valley News, for first half hour).

Unable to attend: Chris Hamilton, Brett Mayfield, Steve Lagasse, Joseph Trottier.

Meeting commenced at 7:32 p.m. in Room 312, Town Hall.

Introductions

All present stated their names and place of residence.

Mr. James was nominated and voted unanimously as Vice-Chair to replace Mr. Lagasse, who had communicated to Ms. Ojibway his desire to step down from that position in anticipation of absences.

Ms. Ojibway gave a brief summary of the committee's process and status.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the meeting May 22, 2018 (subject to a minor revision noting that Mr. Lagasse had been unable to attend) were approved by motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously carried.

Selectboard meeting update

Ms. Souza reported on last week's Selectboard meeting: She had conveyed the pool committee's concern that \$8k is insufficient to complete its charge based on the assessment proposals received; the Selectboard understood this, indicating that some additional funds could be made available for the pool assessment. The Selectboard made no comment on policy regarding community outreach, other than observing that prior surveys have attempted to be representative.

Mr. Hausler cautioned that an early informal survey could miss an option that much of the community supports if representation is not broad enough.

Committee subgroups

At 7:46 the committee divided into two groups: The internal subgroup (Nalette, Sherman, and Vanesse) remained in Room 312 with Mr. Hausler to discuss the RFP evaluation process. The external subgroup (Ojibway, Souza, James, and Snyder) relocated to the adjacent room to discuss the public survey.

At 8:30, the two subgroups reconvened and each reported on its progress.

The **internal subgroup** will rank all assessment proposals using the six criteria listed in the RFP to make a short list of firms to contact for the next round of selection. Mr. Vanesse will email a ranking form with instructions. All committee members are welcome to give their input.

The **external subgroup** discussed two draft surveys. The first version asks about the desirability of options such as listed in the committee charge, e.g., repair as-is, renovation with added features, closure and demolition, etc. The second version asks about frequency of use of the existing pool, what specific things prevent more frequent usage, and how an ideal swimming venue might be envisioned. The subgroup will consider ways to integrate and consolidate questions from the two versions. It was agreed that middle-school and high-school aged students are a critical demographic to understand. The subgroup next discussed modes and timing of distributing a survey, considering relative merits of paper vs. electronic polling. The survey is not only to guide the committee, but can also serve as a public relations or promotional tool. Mr. Hausler will circulate content from the Parks & Rec survey conducted in 2016 that included pool-related questions.

New business

The next meetings were scheduled for Tuesdays, June 6 and June 12, at 7:30 p.m., and then from June 19 onward at 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at about 8:50 p.m.

Respectively submitted by: Scott Snyder, Recording Secretary