



ORLEANS TOWN CLERK
J. Cassel
27 JUN 27 2022

Community Center Feasibility Study Task Force Meeting Minutes

May 16, 2022- Skaket Room/Zoom

The meeting was called to order at 4:39 PM by Chairperson Fritz Luft.

In attendance: Fritz Luft, Andrea Reed, Keith Campbell, Bonny Campbell-Runyon, David Eisen (Abacus Consultant), JoAnna Keeley (Chairperson for Cultural District Committee) and Judi Wilson (Director of COA).

Absent: Jamie Balliot, Steve Kaser, Kyle Wibby and Tracy Murphy.

Minutes from April 28, 2022 approved with edit (meeting held in Nauset Room). Motion by Andrea, seconded by Bonny, vote unanimous.

Bonny volunteered to take minutes.

Fritz reviewed Task and Issues list and will continue to update the list.

Discussion of survey results to date:

382 responses so far- families with school age children response was twice that of seniors. Survey deadline was extended to May 23rd.

David Eisen presented preliminary survey results (see attached handout).

David suggested meeting with 4 Focus Groups to augment survey information and generate new questions.

Judi Wilson (and Andrea) noted the COA building is in the flood zone (more data needed). COA meeting space is inadequate- constantly having to be reset to accommodate each activity/program during the day.

Andrea explained the Recreation program is in transition and the Task Force would benefit from more input from the Recreation Committee.

Next step: The group decided to take a wholistic approach and plan for future needs. David will sketch out several different sized facilities to include needs of the COA, Rec. department and cultural programming to be ready by the next meeting.

Motion to adjourn by Andrea, Alice seconded. Meeting adjourned at 6:15.

David Eisen notes on Orleans SurveyMonkey 5-16-2022

OVERALL TAKEAWAY

Most people think current Orleans public facilities meet needs – but would support a community center in Orleans. Not many people were against a community center although there were certainly comments suggesting costs was a concern. Concern about big ticket items.

Many comments about “don’t need but would be nice”; some people are against. 63% would support; 10% unlikely

Chatham and Harwich community centers used quite a bit by Orleans residents. Both are 10 miles away; 15 to 20 minute drive. But don’t seem to take care of Orleans needs.

Harwich is twice the size of Orleans; COA in CC. Chatham is same size as Orleans and has separate COA and CC

Fitness, culture and socializing all would attract people; only 9.5% wouldn’t go

Town not “kid friendly”. Nothing to do. No sidewalks. Need to attract and keep young people.

Yarmouth Cultural Center is a model

Combine with CoA, Library, Campus – a few mentions

Facility would likely be used at all times of the day and week.

PROGRAM COMMENTS

- Existing skate park is quite popular.
- Gym for basketball most popular, Kitchen is popular; multi-purpose less so
- A pool is requested quite a bit.
- There is frustration at not being able to use gym in middle school
- Need more meeting space
- Swimming, gym, pickleball requested
- Dedicated music, work area and food pantry rated low; all other uses about equal
- Facilities for kids, teens, young adults, parents – small numbers but add up
- Outdoors – access to nature the highest rated – 55%. All others 30%

LOCATION

On the periphery of downtown is most popular. Near schools. On bus routes.

In the center of town and away from downtown don’t get much support.

Using existing facilities better noted, and partnering with Brewster Sea Camp and YMCA Gov. Presence; Santander Bldg. Masonic Lodge; Odd Fellows, near fire station, Snows, Besse property, laundromat property.

COMPARISONS BY AGE

Gym very popular with 26-45; Great Room more favored by 65+

Outdoor pool, water feature, team sports and playground favored by 26-45;

Performance and access to nature favored by 65+

Weekday mornings and afternoons favored by 65+; Afterschool, evenings and weekends by 26-45

Age 26-45 overwhelmingly favor CC (75%); only 50% of 65+; 15% very unlikely

NEXT STEPS

Community Meeting or Focus Groups?

Many people want to stay involved