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## Community Center Feasibility Study Task Force Meeting Minutes

May 26, 2022- Nauset Room/Zoom Hybrid

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 PM by Chairperson Fritz Luft.

Team members in attendance: Fritz Luft, Andrea Reed, Bonny Campbell-Runyon, Jamie Balliett, Kyle Wibby, Tracy Murphy

Team members absent: Alice Van Oot, Steve Kaser, Keith Campbell

Also present: David Eisen (Abacus Consultant), Steve Gass (Chair of Library Board), Tavi Prugno (Library Director), Judi Wilson (COA Director)

Minutes from May 16, 2022 meeting approved

Fritz reviewed Task and Issues list. Most items closed; not much discussion needed.

### Library Expansion Plans:

This meeting featured a discussion about Library expansion plans, lead by Steve Gass (Chair of the Snow's Library Board of Trustees) and Tavi Prugno (Library Director).

- To start, Steve explained that a new board of trustees will start in June. He will stay on for one more year but the role of Chair will be taken over by somebody else.
- Steve presented a list of meeting spaces planned for the new library, based on the 2019 Snow Library Building Program and Facility Conditions report which suggests a 32,000 sq.ft. building in line with accepted Massachusetts guidelines for towns of Orleans' size. See Attachment A. This generous list of meeting spaces was developed with the idea that the library would serve an expanded community center role.
  - Since the library plan already calls for most of the rooms that we might envision for a community center, the team suggested that Orleans community center facilities might be broken into two parts; library for "sitting" activities and arts/recreation center for active "standing" activities. Most of the activities envisioned for community center conference rooms, are actually a better fit to a library environment than a more general recreational one.
  - Noteworthy are expanded children's space and, importantly, spaces for 'tweens and teens.
  - Included in the plan is a craft room. That one room may be equally appropriate in either the library or active community center.
  - The scale of the plan may be a stretch but not outside of reasonable expectations.

- The State of Massachusetts has historically provided funding assistance for town libraries in the range of 30-40%. Unfortunately, no new round of funding has taken place since 2017 and future plans are uncertain. Nevertheless, this possibility may make housing of meeting rooms in the future library financially attractive.
- Working to move forward with the 5 yr. capital improvement plan including feasibility and design work.
- Strategic plan is to be released in June. Supported by a recent town survey with 300 respondents.
- Siting is a problem. Most people would like to see a new or expanded library in its current location. May consider applying for zoning variances.

#### Ensuing Comments and Idea:

- Andrea noted the importance of having audio visual equipment in children's areas.
- It was observed that kids need spaces to be alone together (in other words, get together without parents). Something to consider in both library and community center design.
- Bonny noted two art room requirements:
  - Big space with large sinks – maybe in the Old Firehouse.
  - Broad availability.
- Don't use the library for "Together We Can". The Old Firehouse, is ideal.
- Should Orleans form a "Department of Community Life"?

#### Community Center Naming:

It was suggested that we find an alternative name that would grab resident attention and help sell the community center.

- Fritz asked everyone to submit to him, one or two alternative names for the Taskforce to later vote on. Add to Task and Issues list.
- David had some names for different size options. See his presentation.

#### COA and New Project Direction:

Long term, the COA will need to relocate due to raising water levels and more frequent flooding. Investigation by David Eisen, in conversation with the Cape Cod Commission, suggests that the problem is not imminent but should be considered in conceptualizing community center options.

- David is going to push forward with design concepts for a nicely functioning community center onto which a COA can later be attached in a follow-on phase.

Motion to adjourn made and voted on. Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:15 PM.

## Attachment A

### Snow's Library Planned Meeting Rooms in New Building

- As outlined in 2019 library programs and building report

No.	Description	Capacity	NSF	Purpose / Comments
1	Auditorium	200	2600	Moveable chairs w/storage. 200 auditorium seating. 120 around tables
2	Multipurpose Activities Room	26	825	For light crafts and hands-on projects. Also, 6 workstations for computer training.
3	Medium Conference Room	26	625	Will have AV equipment
4	Medium Study/Meeting Room #1	15	375	
5	Medium Study/Meeting Room #2	15	375	
6	Informal meeting /project space	6	180	For projects and impromptu meetings around a single large table.
7	Small Study/Meeting Room #1	6	150	
8	Small Study/Meeting Room #2	6	150	
9	Casual Social Space / Café	12	300	4 Bistro style tables with 3 seats. Coffee and vending machines
	Kitchenette			
		312	5,580	<b>TOTAL</b>
		112	2,980	Without considering auditorium

#### Children and Young Adult Gathering Areas

No.	Description	Capacity	NSF	Purpose / Comments
1	Children's Room	40-50	860	Storytime and play areas for young children. Includes space for parents to join.
2	Youth Services Activities Room	20 at tables or 45 auditorium style	480	For children, 'tweens, and teens to participate in library and creative activities
3	Young Adult	30	870	For middle and HS students. Young adult collection. Research and reading. Some PCs. 20 seats at tables; 10 lounge seats.

#### Room Details

##### Auditorium

Variety of programs, lectures. Provide art display. Facility for serving light refreshments.

Available beyond library hours.

2,600 sq.ft.

**200** patrons seated auditorium style or 120 seated at tables.

Chairs are stackable. Podium together with audio and projection system.

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##### Medium Sized Conference Room

Meeting space.

625 sq. ft.

25 patrons 4 tables seating 6 persons each. Can combine to one large table.

Various electronics being considered. TBD.

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#### Informal Meeting/Project Space

Large table for impromptu meetings and project work

180 sq/ft.

6 patrons Table and 6 chairs.

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#### Qty =2 Group study/small Meeting rooms

To read or study and/or collaborate away from the activity of the stacks and circulations area.

150 sq/ft each

6 patrons 1 table and 6 chairs in each

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#### Qty = 2 Group study/small Meeting rooms

To read or study and/or collaborate away from the activity of the stacks and circulations area.

375 sq.ft. each

15 patrons. 1 table and 12-15 chairs

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#### Multipurpose Activities Room

Space for hands-on adult classes (crafts, cooking demonstrations, painting), computer/technology classes. More informal than auditorium. May have dividers for multiple programs at once (?).

825 sq. ft.

40 patrons with seating for 26.

Electronics, projection screen, sound system.

6 dedicated workstations (PC?).

Storage closets for crafts.

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#### Casual Social Space/Café

300 sq. ft.

12 patrons at 4 small Bistro-type tables with 3 chairs each.

Sink with small storage cabinet; coffee maker, vending machines, lockable cabinet.

Close to entry, auditorium, circulation desk; away from reading and quiet areas.

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#### Children's Sitting and Meeting Spaces

##### Children's Room

720 sqft for kids and 140 for parents.

Occupancy: 40-50

All sorts of chairs and table, floor sitting areas for stories (plus preschool play)

Storytime and play areas for young kids.

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Youth Services Activities Room (Children's Program Room)

Provide space for children, 'tweens,, and teens to participate in variety of library and creative activities. Early in the day for pre-school, later for school aged kids.

480 sq/ft.

Occupancy: 20 children/young adults at tables; 45-50 in auditorium style on floor or in chairs.

Adjacent to children's room but away from reading and quiet work areas.

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Young Adult

Young adult collection for research and reading. Some computers.

Intended for middle and high school students.

870 sq.ft. seating area.

Occupancy: 30 of which 20 are at tables, 2 carrels, 10 lounge seats.

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A Few Observations

Page 23:

There is currently a craft area – so there is some history of having such a thing at the library.

Page 25:

Lifetime learning includes 40 courses with 1,000 registrations per year.

Page 26:

Young adult space planned in the short term.

Page 36-37:

Building requirements including security. We might learn from that.