

Stonington Borough Comfort Station Task Force Special Meeting

Wednesday, October 11, at 7 pm

Stonington Borough Hall

Draft Meeting Minutes

1. Call to order: 7 pm
2. Task Force members present: Kevin Bowdler, Burgess; Amanda Barnes, Burgess, Jean Fiore, Janet McClendon, Chuck Hartmann, Jesse Diggs, Ellen Wightman, Al Razzano, Allegra Griffiths, Tim Olson, Julia Leeming (ex-officio), Annette Bienkowski (ex-officio)
3. Review of minutes: Chuck Hartmann requested a correction on the spelling of his name and an update to the section re the United Church to reflect that the trustee board of the church had been contacted. Tim Olson commented that he had not stated that St. Mary's was at a disadvantage in terms of location/distance from the commercial area. This was changed to reflect that it was a general sentiment from the committee.
4. Discussion re new/updated location analyses: The Sewage Treatment Plant was reviewed and became a no (though it could be considered in the future). A portable option near the dog park was added to the list of possible locations.
5. Review taskforce members rubrics for 'yes' locations and create a rubric for the committee: The committee created a rubric together based on individual analyses and votes. (See rubric).
6. Public Comment:
 - Nina Cook (2 & 4 Pearl Street) is vehemently opposed to a porta potty or permanent structure at the playground. In favor of using an existing structure - especially enthusiastic about Borough Hall which is a municipal building with existing plumbing, etc. Nina asked for data on the need.
 - Jennifer Olson (Gold Street) very opposed to porta potty at playground - especially a permanent structure. In favor of improving playground area. Jennifer expressed concern re sex offenders/bathrooms near playground.
7. Discussion re process to prioritize/reduce the list of potential locations:
 - Kevin made a motion to eliminate permanent structure for the point; seconded (Chuck), and approved.
 - Kevin made a motion to eliminate permanent structure at the playground; seconded (Tim). Jesse thinks premature to take this off the table; approved (7 in favor, 2 opposed)
 - Kevin made a motion to remove LaGrua Center from the list of proposed locations; seconded (Allegra). Annette commented not a viable option because of events held at the Center. Approved (8 in favor, 1 opposed)
 - Kevin suggested that individual committee members rank each option item 1 through 7.
 - Al suggested a two-pronged approach, including a proof of concept to acquire data. Would provide better insight.
 - Committee members and ex-officio members will submit ranked options to Chuck Hartmann
8. Next meeting date: Thursday, October 26th, 7 pm, Borough Hall.
9. Adjournment