

Community Advisory Committee (CAC)

March 17th, 2022 at 7:00 PM

Minutes

Attendees: Dana Nowell, Bill Torphy, Gail Cromwell, Christine Robidoux, Jessica Hipp, Keith Charlton (remote), Connie Kieley (guest), Vivian Wills

Christine called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

The committee discussed minutes from the past two meetings. The committee unanimously approved the minutes from February 3rd, 2022 as amended. Gail abstained. The committee unanimously approved the minutes from February 17th, 2022 as amended. Dana and Gail abstained.

Christine noted that the warrant article establishing the Community Advisory Committee was approved at town meeting. Per the warrant, members must define terms. Kristen Reida has resigned the committee, leaving 8 members. Christine suggested two one-year terms, three two-year terms, and three three-year terms. Christine noted that Brandy Urbon was appointed by the Select Board for a one-year term. Appointment recommendations are as follows:

3 year - 2025

- Keith Charlton
- Jessica Hipp
- Dana Nowell

2 year - 2024

- Christine Robidoux
- Bill Torphy
- Vivian Wills

1 year - 2023

- Gail Cromwell
- Brandy Urbon

Adie Krulis will remain an alternate.

Committee members are asked to send an email to Christine requesting to be re-appointed to the committee and including the term. Address the email to the select board and send it to Christine and Carole.

Officers were elected via roll call as follows:

- Chair: Keith nominated Christine for chair, and Jessica seconded. The committee approved the nomination unanimously. Christine abstained.

- Christine nominated Jessica for vice chair and Gail seconded. The committee approved the nomination unanimously. Jessica abstained.
- Christine nominated Keith for secretary and Dana seconded. The committee approved the nomination unanimously. Keith abstained.

ARPA Projects Update

A/V Equipment for the Town Hall

Keith gave an update on the A/V Equipment. The Select Board went with the best of the good-better-best options, for a total of approximately \$63K. There are some tweaks to the number of microphones and other equipment, which will slightly alter the price. This proposal takes into account the acoustics of the room. It is the most turnkey of all the options - a switch-on, switch-off solution. This will significantly decrease the burden of training. The town has received the contract and will review at the next Select Board meeting. Installation is slated for the end of May/early June. The new system is ADA compliant.

The Stewardship agreement when the town hall was renovated requires sign-off on any updates. Connie Kieley has been in touch about this project, and the A/V equipment has been approved.

Septic Project

Bill gave an update on the septic project. Bill met with Tim Fiske, and will meet with Steve Cullinan this week. He also plans to meet with Pete Caswell. The purpose of the research is to gather information for an engineering firm to do a study and design. The quote from a Milford firm is \$7,500 for the labor on the engineering study. It will probably be closer to \$10K once tests and other costs are incurred. These costs will be shared with the church. The quote will go before the Select Board at the next meeting for approval to work with the engineering firm.

Bill noted that no location has been decided. The engineering study will help determine possible locations, size of the new system, and types of equipment. There could end up being two systems. We will know more about our options after the engineering study.

The septic project may fall under a grant, with funds earmarked by Senator Shaheen. Based on information from a webinar, Christine said that the Senator's office is looking for projects to fund, and this seems to fit the requirements. April 15 is the application deadline, so we would need to move quickly.

Recreation Area Improvements

The rec committee has not yet moved forward, but it is on their agenda.

Connie Kieley left at 7:35 p.m.

Welcome Booklet

Linda Bollinger had a print copy of the booklet out at town meeting. It ended up being 116 pages. The formatting may need another look. It has been proofread by many people. The project has been handed over to Christine. Funds are needed to print more copies. Christine recommended that print copies would stay at public locations (library, town hall, municipal offices, etc.). Content will likely need to be updated annually, so Christine advised against printing lots of extra copies. Linda would like to apply to the anniversary fund to cover printing costs. Linda has asked if the CAC will be the sponsoring committee.

Vivian Wills joined the meeting at 7:44 p.m.

Good Roads Day

Linda Bollinger emailed requesting that the CAC help with Good Roads Day. Vivian has contacted a family with middle schoolers, who will help spread the word to get young people to help. Children of all ages are invited to participate. Vivian noted that community service hours are no longer required by Conval, which makes finding volunteers more challenging. Good Roads Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 23. Ladies Aid helps with food and others bring dishes. Can the CAC do a flyer to support Good Roads Day? Christine will ask Linda about a flyer. The Easter egg hunt is April 10th, and Good Roads Day will be heavily promoted there.

NHHFA Grant DRAFT and Charrette DRAFT

Christine brought extra copies of letters in support the Charrette to share with committees. Bill talked to Honey Hastings, who didn't know when the Historical Society would meet next. We have letters from the Rec Committee, Select Board, and Conservation Committee. Gail will get letters from the committees that she is on. The library trustees sent an email in support. Vivian spoke with Dick Benotti for the town hall.

Christine shared the mini-grant application with Carol Ogilvy. She recommended including the statement about housing from the Vision Statement, and she suggested other minor edits.

Christine shared new versions of the Charrette DRAFT application. The section on the highway department has been updated to reflect the outcomes of Town Meeting. The Land Use committee suggested referencing the history of public parking near the Town Common. Jessica will review the draft for references to Conval and TES. Christine will send out a new revised version.

A motion was made to approve the draft application, dated 3/1/2022, with pending edits as discussed. Vote was taken via roll call, approved unanimously.

School Committee Discussion

Jessica gave an update about the elementary school. The new Lionheart charter school in Peterborough will impact enrollment next year. Concerns about the quality of education were discussed. Conval's enrollment continues to decline across the board. There are lots of

education options in this region, including private schools, charter schools, and strong homeschooling groups.

Dana and Gail did an analysis of the Conval budget. Educating a student at Peterborough Elementary School (PES) costs roughly \$15.5K annually. Educating a student at Temple Elementary (TES) costs just over \$21K annually. This is a significant difference. Dana pointed out that closing TES would save the district about \$300K annually. Since Temple's portion of the budget is roughly 6.8%, closing TES would save Temple taxpayers a total of \$21K.

The committee agreed that the next step is to get feedback from the community. This should include families of students enrolled at Conval, as well as families who homeschool or send their children to private or charter schools. The feedback should center around the quality of education as a general topic, so we can understand the current educational and social needs of children in Temple. The school subcommittee will meet to flesh this out. The plan is to start with a survey, followed by two forums. The first forum will be a listening session. The second forum will present findings from the survey and listening session.

Christine noted that Mackenzie Nichols, who works at the River Center, has a presentation about housing and affordable housing. She is willing to come and give the presentation. The Planning Board will be invited. The Planning Board is willing to co-host any affordable housing forums or sessions. Christine will work with the Planning Board to determine a date.

The meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Jessica Hipp



Jessica Hipp <jess.hipp@gmail.com>

School research

Jessica Hipp <jess.hipp@gmail.com>

Fri, Mar 18, 2022 at 9:14 AM

To: amkrulis82@gmail.com, "Bill Torphy (w.torphy@comcast.net)" <w.torphy@comcast.net>, Brandy Urbon <brandyurbon@gmail.com>, Christine Robidoux <cearobidoux@gmail.com>, Dana Nowell <dana@gremlinfree.com>, Gail Cromwell <gpiersoncromwell@gmail.com>, Keith Charlton <keith.charlton@gmail.com>, Kristen Reida <nursekris10@gmail.com>, Vivian Wills <livelyrose7@gmail.com>

Hi all,

This is the school research referenced last night. I will include this in the minutes.

Thanks,
Jess

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jessica Hipp** <jess.hipp@gmail.com>

Date: Tue, Mar 15, 2022 at 1:59 PM

Subject: School research

To: Dana Nowell <dana@gremlinfree.com>, Gail Cromwell <gpiersoncromwell@gmail.com>, Christine Robidoux <cearobidoux@gmail.com>

Hi folks,

I spent some time researching things related to school consolidation, numbers, etc. This email contains a bunch of random things I found. I tried to group it, but it's mostly random.

I'm sharing with this smaller group since we have been looking at data and numbers. I plan to present some or all of this info on Thursday night at the CAC meeting.

Dana and Gail, once you have a chance to connect on the budget data, we can decide what to do with that.

Thanks,
Jess

Temple Demographics: According to the Demographics, American Community Survey (ACS) 2015-2019, there are 149 children between ages 5-19 and 37 children under age 5

Children under age 5

2000: 80

2010: 42

2019: 37

Children 5-19

2000: 340 (129+122+89)

2010: 286 (73+103+110)

2019: 149

***This data is not from the same source. 2000 and 2010 numbers are from the Population and Housing analysis in the Master Plan. How can we get census data from 2020 so the numbers are apples to apples? I looked but couldn't find it.

Questions:

- How many K-4 schools are there within a 25-mile radius of Temple?
- How many households/students attend public/private/charter/home school programs? (It would be good to see both household demographics and #s of actual students.)

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?ik=f001f272f6&view=pt&search=all&permmsgid=msg-a%3Ar3065787157519964840&dsqt=1&simpl=msg-a%3Ar30657871575...> 1/2
3/18/22, 3:36 PM Gmail - School research

- What is the average travel time in NH/New England/the US to go to elementary school?

Rural Schools Research

Observation: The term "school consolidation" can mean different things in different contexts. It can refer both to consolidating schools within a district, and also consolidating districts. A lot of research focuses on Arkansas, which has a law passed in the early 2000s that any *district* with fewer than 350 enrolled students must consolidate with another district. That state now has many fewer school districts than it did 20 years ago. A lot of the research from Arkansas does not apply to us.

There are also stories covering towns where a school closes due to lack of students, and the next closest school is 45+ minutes away.

The Journalist's Resource: What happens to a community when a rural school closes? (July 25, 2019)

A seminal paper from 2002 found that small rural communities with schools have higher housing values and better infrastructure. The author, late Cornell University sociologist Thomas Lyson, focused on 297 incorporated villages in New York with populations of less than 2,500.

Home values were nearly 25% higher in small rural villages that had a school. Lyson defined small rural villages as those with 500 or fewer people, and **large rural villages as having between 501 and 2,500 people. Home values were 6% higher in large rural villages with schools.**

At least one study, published earlier this year in the Journal of Rural Studies, picked up where Lyson left off. Cornell researchers tested his finding that schools provide social and economic benefits to rural communities. They focused on 308 rural villages in New York with between 500 and 2,500 people.

Unlike Lyson, they did not find that a village having a school increased home values. But they did find economic benefits for those living closer to schools.

For example, for each mile a village was closer to a school, whether or not the school was actually in that village, values increased more than \$11,000 and per capita income increased more than \$1,000.

Research often focuses on the benefits schools bring to communities, but some research has found benefits from consolidation, too. Teachers experienced better working conditions and students had more courses to choose from after four high school consolidations in rural Arkansas in the mid-2000s, according to a 2010 paper published in the Journal of Research in Rural Education.

Much of the research explores consequences of closings and consolidations in rural areas in different parts of the country. Researchers often warn that it can be difficult to make sweeping generalizations about what might happen in one rural area based on what happened in another rural area.

PBS News Hour: How schools are forced to close as rural populations dwindle (Nov, 2018)

Video profiling a Wisconsin community that consolidated smaller schools into a more central school.

3/18/22, 9:15 AM

Gmail - Construction Update



Jessica Hipp <jess.hipp@gmail.com>

Construction Update

Jessica Hipp <jess.hipp@gmail.com>

Wed, Mar 16, 2022 at 1:30 PM

To: amkrulis82@gmail.com, "Bill Torphy (w.torphy@comcast.net)" <w.torphy@comcast.net>, Brandy Urbon <brandycarbon@gmail.com>, Christine Robidoux <cearobidoux@gmail.com>, Dana Nowell <dana@gremlinfree.com>, Gail Cromwell <gpiersoncromwell@gmail.com>, Keith Charlton <keith.charlton@gmail.com>, Kristen Reida <nursekris10@gmail.com>, Vivian Wills <livelyrose7@gmail.com>

Sending a broadband update for CAC members. Numbers have not changed since the last update because Eustis continues to do cleanup of work that needed to be re-done at a higher quality. This update will be included in CAC minutes.

Thanks,
Jess

Hi Jess,

Below is the current status. We're still working on cleaning up a few areas as we discussed on last Friday's call. Our goal is to have a portion of the town up and running by the end of this month.

Job	Fiber Built %	Splicing %	Testing Complete	Install Status
Dark Purple-FDH #13	100%	80%	0%	Not Ready for Installs
Aqua Blue-FDH #14	100%	35%	0%	Not Ready for Installs
Yellow-FDH #14 (P)	100%	20%	0%	Not Ready for Installs
Purple-FDH #15	100%	95%	0%	Not Ready for Installs
Lime Green-FDH #16	86%	40%	0%	Not Ready for Installs

Let us know if you have any questions,

Jeff

