

# Campus Center Community Collaborative Committee Meeting

3/24/21 zoom

Meeting called to order 5:30 PM

Attendees: Heath Cummings, Chair, Andrea Llamas, Erin Jaworski, James Spencer, Moody Center Rep, Julia Wiggin, Moody Center Rep, Mary Bowen, Patter Field, Robin McKeon, Steve Stoia, Tony Stavelly.

Absent: Tom Kaiser, Thomas Aquinas College Rep, Steve Wiggin, Thomas Aquinas College Rep, Alice Lord

Quorum present

Additional attendees: Zach Deluca, The Recorder, Hastings, Heather Tower, Stephen Seredynski, Sam Richardson, Bob MacEwen.

1. Recorder of minutes
  - Robin McKeon volunteered
2. Private vs. Public
  - Private vs public options discussed
  - Moody Center rep expressed concern at last meeting re premature release of information to public
  - Open Meeting Law states that meeting must be public. All meetings open and zoom links posted
  - Members of committee can have side conversation to explore ideas as long as not a quorum
  - Heath Cummings and Andrea Llamas determined this committee must adhere to Open Meeting Law
3. Mission statement

The Campus Center-Community Collaborative Committee (CCCCC) was appointed by the Northfield Selectboard to foster communication, promote understanding and collaboration among community members selected by pertinent Town Boards: at-large members of the Northfield community and the owners and representatives of the former Northfield campus (Thomas Aquinas College, the Moody Center). Predicated by the Town's Master Plan, the C5 allows members of the Town to maintain a proactive advisory role in the redevelopment of the campus, encouraging re-use and growth which reflects the historic aspects of the campus, and assuring that the Town's long-term goals are considered in the process.

Motion made by Heath Cummings to accept above mission statement, Tony Stavelly seconded. Motion approved by majority.

4. Name of committee
  - Campus Center Community Collaborative Committee or C5

5. Complete streets update (Andrea Llamas)

- New engineering firm, waiting for estimates, securing funding
- Projects identified and funded
- Intersection at Moody, Highland, North Lane, Winchester major issue
- Present to committee to look at design
- Concern brought up re crosswalk at Revell for safety, needs to be well marked. Not part of this grant. Selectboard has been in communication with state (Route 10). State in conversation about several main street issues. Rapid flashing beacons. Not part of complete streets project. Mass dot. Also crucial for Schell Bridge foot traffic.

6. Schell Bridge project (Andrea Llamas)

- In right of way phase, negotiation with land owners, MC, First Light. Resident abutters (2) on west side of bridge.
- 2 articles on town warrant: 1) Allow selectboard to negotiate land rights. 2) Article for \$25K right of way expenses primarily for First Light. Has to file with FERC. Complicated process due to being under federal law. \$20+M Schell bridge project of state. Right of way town of Northfield responsibility. Bridge will become DCR after completed. Advertising date for this project is August 2021. Multi-year construction project. Possible boat ramp extension plan- project likely completed via boat ramp.
- Drawings on town website

7. Rapid Recovery Grant (Steve Stoia)

- Rapid Recovery Grant from state. Consultants to work on the development of downtown. Schell bridge had UMASS business study done. Increase in visitors to town projected. In order for this to happen, downtown Northfield has to develop for people to stay here. Too many empty businesses now. Study seeks to understand reason for loss of business. Need reasons for people to stop in Northfield. Need accommodations at Moody Center. Invite investors to begin business in town.

8. Revell, Holton and Moore Cottage update (James Spencer)

- Revell and Holton moving forward with historic restoration. Some features of inside/outside, windows, doors, etc will stay. Waiting for historic tax credits/state funding. May take up to 9 months wait.
- Moore Cottage will leave that to planning board. No further discussion due to decision to keep all private. Proposal will go to planning board, no timeline available presently.

9. Prayer walk (James Spencer)

- Tourists want to visit historic part of property: Birthplace, Round Top, Homestead, etc. Landscaping to beautify campus and direct people on walking tour or prayer walk. Audio experience designed for DL moody history, buildings etc history lesson. Self-guided tour of campus



10. Martyr's Grove (James Spencer)
  - Questionable historical accuracy. Trees dying/dead. Remove old trees, relocate and replace with new arrangement of trees, make it into a true grove. 4 pathways to circular interior. Screen shared.
11. Additional walkways to auditorium and Betsy Moody via Hibbard. Interior museum in Auditorium
12. Parking at Hillside being considered
13. Tour buses need to navigate intersections. Pilgrimage coming to Northfield by the busload
14. Creating a natural boundary between Moody Center and Thomas Aquinas College property
15. Additional discussion
  - Tony Stavelly: Idea for tourism to Northfield to take in beautiful architecture, architectural tours. May cross Moody Center and Thomas Aquinas College boundary, and include additional buildings in Northfield.
  - James Spencer has not talked with Thomas Aquinas College about tours for architecture. Looking for path to direct people through town. Whole town feel. Plymouth, MA as idea for Northfield-history basis for tourism.
16. Additional topics-none
17. Next meeting items
  - Next meeting Wednesday April 28, 2021 5:30-7 PM
  - Andrea Llamas to reach out to Thomas Aquinas representatives to accommodate at next meeting
  - Agenda to be posted by Monday April 26<sup>th</sup> midday, suggest agenda items in advance
  - Recommended continued dialogue, update on topics discussed tonight recommended, LRRP, business owner survey
  - Re-evaluate at next meeting future meeting times

Motion to adjourn made by Heath Cummings, James Spencer seconded.

Adjourned 7:10 PM

Recorded by:

Robin McKeon, Member