

June 25, 2008

Beach Committee

Present: Mark Lyon, Ray Reich, Dirk Sabin, Nick Solley, Jaye Stuart, Mary Weber, William Worcester

First Selectman Mark Lyon called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. He explained to the committee that plans for the Beach building and landscaping were being finalized. Cost estimates have been refined. A STEAP (Small Town Economic Assistance Program) grant for \$300000 has been obtained. This, along with the \$200000 already in hand, is helping to move the project forward. Selectman Nick Solley, who has been working on aspects of this project, joined the committee. The compressor building has now been approved. Next, the cottage and landscaping work must go through this same approval process.

The Selectmen have held several public hearings on this project. Not many comments or questions were raised by the audiences. There was a suggestion to possibly move the entrance to the caretaker's cottage. However, committee members decided to keep the entrance in a position that facilitated the caretaker's ability to keep an eye on things. Another comment came from a person who said he would be willing to help with issues about keeping the lake clean.

Mark Lyon reported that he and Nick Solley have gone over all the committee members' suggestions about the plans, which included the question of a second egress out of the apartment and reducing the size of the men's and women's bathrooms. The latter would allow for a larger unisex/handicapped bathroom, as well as for additional boat storage space. William Worcester will talk to Bill Jenks about a variance to accommodate such changes.

William Worcester discussed incorporating a deck with the second egress which would allow the caretaker to see the entire beach area. He also put forth the idea of enlarging one bedroom while reducing the size of the other, creating more of a master bedroom and den combination. A portico over the front door would add to the building's aesthetics, as would window boxes, which are also on the present building. William Worcester raised the possibility of increasing the kitchen's footage by reducing the size of a closet.

Mark Lyon said the project would need to proceed in stages as funds became available. Portions of the landscaping can proceed without being damaged by the tearing down of the present building.

Nick Solley has been looking into the costs of a modular unit versus that of a stick built building. The goal is to insure a well-insulated building, including energy efficient windows. Samples of vinyl siding in a cedar shake style were examined by the committee. The pros and cons of group usage and food franchises and placement of barbecue areas were discussed.

At the next meeting, William Worcester will show the committee how he has incorporated changes made on the basis of the suggestions.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, July 16 at 7 p.m. in the Land Use Room, Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Patte Doran
Beach Committee