

History of Community Center Committee

- March 11, 2003 Council approves the placement of proceeds from the sale of the former Town Hall into a dedicated reserve account for a future community center (Exhibit A)
- May 13, 2003 Council approves and appoints a special Community Center Committee to determine citizen interest and desires for a Community Center (Exhibit B)
- June 4, 2003 First committee meeting to discuss its mission and goals
- June 2003 to April 2004 Committee meets with guest speakers and visits South Portland and Cape Elizabeth centers to assist in developing a feasible plan for a Center. Committee conducts a townwide telephone survey to determine taxpayers' interests and suggestions for a Center
- April 11, 2004 Committee reports to Council the results of survey with its recommendations (Exhibit C)
- May 11, 2004 and September 14, 2004 Council approves the formation of, and appointment to, a new Community Building Development and Planning Committee (Exhibit D & D-1)
- May 2004 to August 2005 Numerous committee meetings refining designs and locations for a building. Unsuccessful negotiations undertaken with Standish Kiwanis Club for a donation of a portion of their Route 25 land for a site. Visits made to South Portland, Wiscasset and Skowhegan centers to obtain pertinent information and assistance in the design and programming of a center including, but not limited to, any necessary "do's" and "don'ts" to be considered by the Committee.
- January to August 2005 Ongoing negotiations with Kiwanis regarding a 7-acre parcel of land that they were willing to donate; Committee decided September of that month that we needed to look at other options since a Memorandum of Understanding (M.O.U.) that was favorable to both the Town and Kiwanis could not be agreed upon.

September 13, 2005	Town Council voted in favor of accepting the recommendation of the Community Center Committee and ordered the Town Manager to obtain an appraisal and survey of the Boulter's property adjacent to the Municipal Center (Exhibit E and E-1)
November 8, 2005	Council voted on an order to have the Town Manager authorize a Purchase and Sales Contract for the 8 acre parcel on Moody Road, and have a referendum question placed on the June 2006 election ballot to purchase this land for a proposed Community Center (Exhibit F)
June 13, 2006	Voters approve the purchase of the Cummings property for the proposed site of a Center.
June to Center November 2006	Committee continues to refine its Statement of Needs in any and selects five architectural firms to bid on the project.
November 14, 2006	Council authorizes Town Manager to enter into a contract for architectural services with Bargmann, Hendrie and Archetype, Inc., Boston, MA. at a price not to exceed \$70,000. (Exhibit G)
November 2006 – Present	Committee continues to meet with architect, Joel Bargmann, to formulate and approve a conceptual design, projected costs, site development and a sample business plan.
February 2007	Architect and committee members visits, analyzes and reports on all available town meeting places, sizes, uses, etc.
May 2007	Wetland delineation study completed by BH+A with their recommendation to meet and discuss the proposed site with D.E.P.
June 2007	Site walk with D.E.P completed
August 2007	DEP confirms findings of the site walk concerning wetlands and vernal pools

- October 2007 Site walk undertaken with D.E.P., Army Corps of Engineers and U.S. Fish and Wildlife to determine suitability of site with wetlands and vernal pools found on site.
- October 30, 2007 Council refuses recommendation of Committee to allow a small change order to the architect's contract allowing a wetlands study to remaining town property behind the Municipal Center for a possible new site. (Exhibit H).
- December 14, 2007 Meeting held with DEP, ACOE and Inland Fisheries and Wildlife on issue of vernal pools' impact on the Moody Road site.
- January 2008 Council orders Committee to cease any further exploration of mitigation or other efforts to utilize the Moody Road site. (Exhibit I)
- March 2008 Four public forums held throughout the Town for citizen input on the proposed location, conceptual plan, costs and possible business plan.
- March 2008 Committee meets with Donald E. Murphy, Wetland Scientist, with New England Forestry Consultants, Inc. and the Small Woodlot Owners of Maine to discuss the wetlands and vernal pools issues and mitigation opportunities. Murphy presents Committee with a \$1500 consultant proposal to determine the mitigation possibilities on the Town-owned Boundary Road acreage. (Exhibit J)
- March 2008 Maine's Legislature passes two new laws affecting the definition of vernal pools and the species protected within pools. (Exhibit K)
- March 2008 to present Committee affirms conceptual design and business plan with its related and protected estimated financial figures and prepares its final report to the Council.
- August 2008 Final Report presented for acceptance by Council.