

TOWN OF ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS
ADAMS TOWN HALL BUILDING, 1st FLOOR, ADAMS, MA 01220

BOARD OF SELECTMEN WORKSHOP MINUTES 04/25/2018

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Duval at 6:30 p.m. Members Blanchard, Hoyt and Nowak were present as well Interim Town Administrator Cesan, and ASCCC Committee Members Pam St. John, Ed St. John III, Carleen Butler, Peter Tomyl, Bill Kolis.

NEW BUSINESS:

Adams Suffrage Centennial Committee (ASCCC) Presentation: *Member Nowak* recused himself and sat in the audience as he is on the ASCCC. *Virginia Duval* and *Bill Kolis* provided information about the top three choices for the statue proposals. The strategy the committee used to manage their projects, the purpose of the statue and the process that took place to get to the final statue proposals were explained. An RFP was distributed in October and thirteen responses were received, which were then narrowed down to three. *Mr. Kolis* advised the preferred proposal is by Brian Hanlon, the official sculptor for the Basketball Hall of Fame. His experience level was emphasized and it was noted that his geographic location allowed him to come here personally. The others were interviewed by Skype. *Mr. Hanlon's* other major historical sculptures were listed, and it was explained that he is currently doing a Harriet Tubman sculpture in Albany. A sample of a proposed design was provided to the Board. A suggestion was made to hold a contest in the community to provide a five or six year old model for the sculpture. The work will be done in *Mr. Hanlon's* own foundry and the sculpture is proposed to have a granite base. The quote received for the statue work is \$130,000 and it was noted that \$150,000 is the average price for a statue. Fundraising efforts were discussed and it was announced that Adams Community Bank gave two matching grants of \$25,000. The Committee has raised \$29,000 and \$25,000 had to be funded to qualify. The townspeople were thanked for being very supportive. Placement of the sculpture was discussed and the Committee is working with Interim Town Administrator Cesan on landscaping at the Town Common to frame and focus on the sculpture. The sculpture was described as being eight feet tall and also a younger version will be proportionate to that height. The Committee was thanked for their suggestions and work done to boost fundraising efforts. It was noted that the Town Common needs to be upgraded, and the Town was requested to look into grants for this purpose. The gazebo was described as being in rough shape, showing its age. The time frame for the statue completion is August 2019 for the August 2020 dedication. It was explained that *Mr. Hanlon* offered to do a rendering to show the concept and get a general consensus. Twelve miniature sculptures would be free, to provide a "Susan B. Anthony Experience". The miniatures would provide information and take the visitor up to the monument itself. The placement of the McKinley and Susan B. Anthony statues at opposite ends of the street with historical buildings between them was emphasized as being important. Funding outreach was discussed. Other celebrations across the Commonwealth for 2020 were listed. The funding goal for all of the celebratory events was quoted at \$300,000. In-Kind donations were noted as being very important especially for masons, landscaping, and landscape architecture. State Representative Barrett has put in an Amendment for \$50,000 and citizens were encouraged to call the other Representatives in the state to ask them to sign the amendment. Senator Hinds will then be asked to forward it on to be passed at the Senate. A suggestion was made to name the Town Common the "Susan B. Anthony Town Common". Illumination of the statue is being investigated to pan lighting off the buildings and spotlight it. This topic will be brought to the next Board of Selectmen meeting for a formal vote. An inquiry was made to see if McCann students could work on the gazebo as a school project. ***Consensus was reached by the Board of Selectmen that the presented concept is good.***

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Discussion Visitors Center Parking Lot – Pay for Parking: Member Nowak rejoined the Board of Selectmen for this portion of the meeting. *Interim Town Administrator Cesan* briefly reviewed the Visitors Center Parking Lot Project. The center island and one entrance to the parking lot are being eliminated to allow for one central location and two way parking. The current lot design was noted as being confusing, with a circulation pattern that is difficult to maneuver. The Department of Public Works has started doing tree work as in-kind services to assist in keeping the costs for the construction project low. There was past discussion about whether or not it should be a pay-to-park lot. A proposal was made for two kitty-corner kiosks. The primary users of the parking lot are the Council on Aging, the doctor's office, the bank and other business employees. Contractors have been contacted and plans have been mapped out for the kiosk locations. An allowance is in the bid as a holding place. Research was done on the First Street parking lot in Pittsfield, which was redone and using a Strata kiosk system. The process of how to use the kiosk and how enforcement is done was explained. The reader for the system was quoted as being \$55,000 and that the number of spaces Adams had would not likely warrant this unit. Other tickets that require putting a ticket on the dashboard and numbered space systems were discussed. Board Members gave input about the flexibility of being able to use credit cards at a kiosk, and the challenges with lost tickets and reimbursements. License plate tracking for rental cars was noted as requiring more work to get payment for a ticket. Challenges with collecting money from meters were outlined. The use of spaces by the Medical Office, the space agreement on the property deed, and whether or not to charge for use of the spaces was discussed. A request was made to review the parking meter amounts for potential adjustment. The strategy to charge money so people do their business and move along was explained. Consistency in ticketing and repairing inoperable meters was noted as being vital. The process has been started to have a Parking Enforcement Officer, and lost revenue from inconsistency was pointed out as being an issue. Once the position is reviewed by the Board and advertised the Town will be ready to make final decisions on the kiosk. Areas of the parking lot may be able to be designated with signage for special use by businesses. Suggestions were made to have permit parking for regular employees using the lot, and to keep the parking the same cost throughout the town for consistency. Those working in a downtown location may have to pay for parking as part of a lease, and the funds can go back into road maintenance. *Pam St. John* of the Council on Aging Board of Directors gave information that the Council on Aging runs with volunteers and the majority of seniors go there for lunch and socialization, which is not an in-and-out situation. It was explained that the Council on Aging may be relocating to another building, and if so there would not be proposed fees for parking there. The possibility of having tokens for parking validation was briefly discussed. The complications of parking during the construction were noted and there will be a public meeting with the contractor prior to the commencement of construction. Bids are due tomorrow. There will be a public meeting for abutters, the Council on Aging, the Board of Selectmen and others that frequently use the parking lot to have questions and concerns addressed. It is possible to have it done in stages to allow half the lot to be used while other half is being constructed. Mr. Cohen will be asked to allow parking on the gravel area across from the Bike Trail and there may be a need to get insurance. Armory Court may be a solution for twenty five spaces. *Jim Bush* pointed out that some people at the Council on Aging with mobility issues are not able to run out to put money in the meter. It was noted that meters can be paid for up to six hours. It was expressed that the removal of the trees will open up the area to wind as the buffer will be gone. Some of the trees were becoming too large and roots were uplifting the sidewalk causing safety issues. ***Consensus was reached by Board Members regarding being in favor of the kiosk credit card and coin pay for parking system.***