

Sherman Senior Center Building Committee – Minutes

September 27, 2023

Present: Karen Cardillo, Joan Laucius, Laura Jagodzinski, Tim Beatty, Dave Seegers, Ed Hayes, Don Lowe

Absent: Carol Sperling, Rick Hudson

The meeting was called to order at 7:03pm by Chairperson Karen Cardillo. As the meeting involved evaluating the four architects the committee had interviewed and possibly choosing one, Karen asked for suggestions on how to proceed. Laura framed the process by giving a quick round-up on her scorecard for each architect. The committee paid particular attention to the various requirements met and also to the pricing.

The committee then started the architect evaluations one at a time and we started with one of the firms (Lazarus/Sargeant). Two of our members were not present during the interview with this firm.

The discussion diverted to our committee's process, and committee members firmed up the idea of what type of design work was needed from the architect in order to bring this to a referendum. After that was decided, the committee as a group agreed on the process of getting financing from the Town for the initial design work. First the Board of Selectman would consider the expense and if they approved, would send it to a Town Meeting wherein the voters would decide to go forward or not with the expense.

Following this was a round-the-table discussion on each architect. After considerable discussion, the architects were ranked and one architect stood out among the others. The only meeting attendee, Dave Lathrop, Sherman's Fire Marshal, made very positive comments about the architect that seemed to be the choice of the committee, though no vote had been taken. One of the committee members gave a slightly deviating view of the architect that the others had chosen. The viewpoint was not negative, but just another perspective.

After further discussion, a motion was made to choose the architect that everyone had found most favorable. The vote was unanimous for choosing Maura Newell of seventy2architects LLC in Danbury, CT.

It was decided that Don would call Maura and that Karen would call the other architects to let them know they weren't selected. We confirmed that the next meeting is on October 18 at 7pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07pm