

NEW HAVEN TRAIN DEPOT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes From Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Attendees:

Laura Trieschmann, Bernie Noble, Christopher Ross, Florian Oberhuber, James Booth, Scott Reiss, John Peters, Linda Sundstrom, Mary Manley, Susan Smiley, Steve Dupoise, John Van Hoesen, David, Dave, Larry.

John Van Hoesen called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM via Zoom. He briefly described the purpose of the meeting, then invited attendees to introduce themselves, and then invited comments and questions on the New Haven Train Depot.

Discussion About Preference for Siting Depot

- Station stays in New Haven, preferably close to where it is now
- Station stays where it is (unlikely), question about whether it can't stay because of wetland encroachment
- Use as a museum and move within the town
- Move or rebuilt to Field Days property and use as a training session for historical building skills
- Memorial Park
- Across from Duncan Donuts (site of former gas station)
- SWC Rt 17/Daniels Road (possible wetland encroachment)
- Next to Town Office
- Campground Road, where the campground used to be
- Shelburne Museum (off-site), they weren't interested a few years ago but possibly now

Concerns/Constraints/Suggestions

- Look at disassembling and rebuilding vs. moving in-situ. Concerns about brick/roof failure
- Concerns about moving it because it was damaged in the past
- Questions about who is responsible for funding, source of funding
- Questions about ensuring funding is in place so it doesn't just sit there
- Statement that Amtrak should be responsible for some of the cost of movement. Conversations have occurred about possible funding sources.
- Questions about wetlands as a constraint. Possible wetland specialist may work with the town. Request for ANR to produce wetland maps is in progress.
- Building serves as an 'entrance' into New Haven, so value is more than just historical context.
- Questions about timeline; only known deadline is building must be moved by December 2021
- Combine building with another purpose like a bike path. Town is creating a triangle bike route.
- Questions about what it is the actual concern from Amtrak. Initially, it was a buffer to the track but now it seems the line of sight is most problematic. Possible language in US DOT documents ([here](#) and [here](#)) that suggests active devices may be sufficient? Need guidance from VTRANS.

John Van Hoesen inquired when the next meeting should occur, Steve Dupoise suggested ASAP. John will schedule around Trini Brassard's availability.

With no other comments, John Van Hoesen closed the meeting at 6:01 PM.