

# NEW HAVEN TRAIN DEPOT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

## Minutes From Thursday, April 29, 2021

### Attendees:

Aaron Brown, Larry Maier, Bernie Noble, Ron Kilburn, Doug McKain, Candy Davidson, Andy Davidson, Ruth Penfield, Steve Dupoise, Florian Oberhuber, David Spencer, Tim Bouton, Bev Landon, Laura Trieschmann, Grandpa Don, Trini Brassard, Susan Smiley, Gary Sundsom.

John called the meeting to order at 4:01 PM via Zoom and opened the floor up to Laura to share background on a possible grant opportunity.

### Discussion

- Laura described the Northern Borders Regional Commission Grant (~\$350K max request), which requires a 50% match but that could be matched by building assessment. Costa Pappis will write the actual grant and submit on behalf of the town. The State has also indicated it could match ~\$400K (not guaranteed) for moving and prepping a new site for the building. Costs associated with moving the building to all three sites is currently being evaluated. The site north of the Town Office looks most hopeful because that is town owned. The NBRC grant can't be used to purchase land but it can be used to stabilize a new site and stabilize the building during the move.
- Tim asked how the State can apply for the grant on behalf of the town, when the building or possible land, aren't owned by the town. Trini and Laura both indicated the town will own the building by the end of the project.
- Aaron asked who is responsible for doing an environment review prior to any move. Trini shared that VTrans is meeting 4/3/21 to discuss this. Trini encouraged continued discussion with other organizations that might offer financial support so that all funding isn't tied to state sources.
- Steve shared that Trini was still interested in pursuing the Rt 7/Rt 17 as a possible site. Steve indicated the likely cost of land at the intersection is ~\$170K. VTrans need to do an environmental clearance on the site as well; hoping for a categorical exclusion permit given the project timeline.
- Ruth asked about whether wetlands and whether historical commercial may cause issues? Trini indicated the site isn't in wetlands and that the Level 1 environmental review would provide information about Brownfield status.
- Steve indicated that he and Florian didn't think the site at Memorial Park would be large enough. So that site will likely be dropped from the discussion.
- Gary suggested someone post an update on Front Porch Forum about posters being available for review at the town office on 5/1/21.

### Next Steps

- Laura will reach out to Kristie about the NBRC grant regarding proposing two possible sites, with the junction being the first priority and North Street being the second option.
- Steve will apprise the Selectboard of the status of the project at the Tuesday meeting (5/4/21)
- Steve and Tim will share posters at the Town Office on Saturday 5/1/21 to solicit some input from the community.

With no other comments, John closed the meeting at 5:01 PM.