Chairman JP called the meeting to order at 3:34 P.M. at Bedford Freight House, 120 South Road.

RW provided an overview of the work that is being done by state contractors at the Freight House. Framing has been erected for a mechanical room, an electrical room, and a room for a hot water heater and mop sink.

RW, RJ and JP discussed the interior buildout that would be done by the Town after the state has finished their renovation project. They discussed options for flooring materials. The Facilities Department would install the flooring.

JP distributed and reviewed a schematic he prepared of a half-wall to be built on the eastern side of the interior. It would be comprised of base cabinets with a countertop and a sink. Plumbing and electrical services would be part of this arrangement. RW noted that there is to be a hand-wash sink on an adjacent wall.

JS expressed that the proposed half-wall would provide flexibility for future Freight House uses including self-service food sales, special events and rentals by the Town.

The Committee discussed how to proceed with formal design of the countertop and cabinets. RJ and JP suggested hiring an architect to prepare and stamp the drawings.
JS inquired about the new doors that the public would use to enter the building. RW explained that there would be two double doors on the railroad car side of the building. The exterior doors are to be solid, and the interior doors are to have large glass windows.

RJ requested information about the interior layout of the Freight House.

RW said that the building’s water supply might not be insulated sufficiently for cold weather. RJ and JP suggested ways to improve the insulation so that it is not necessary to drain the building’s water pipes each winter.

JS asked whether there would be a card reader for building access. RJ and RW discussed using a system that would be compatible with the Town’s electronic security equipment.

JS noted that he and DC attended the Selectmen’s meeting of March 10, 2008. At this meeting, the Selectmen discussed the Committee’s recommendations—as expressed by chairman Joseph Piantedosi in a letter dated January 17, 2008—concerning a Depot Park financial plan, renovation of the Depot, and future rental of the building. The Selectmen voted unanimously to endorse the Committee’s recommendations that were conveyed in the chairman’s letter.

JP left the meeting at 4:35 P.M.

At 4:45 P.M., DC made a motion to adjourn the meeting. JS seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Submitted by

Jim Shea, Clerk

These minutes were approved by a unanimous vote of the Committee at its meeting of 8/20/08.