

COUNCIL ON AGING  
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING  
APRIL 21, 2016  
TOPSFIELD TOWN HALL CONFERENCE ROOM  
3:45 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Annette Cohen, Florence Brady, Penny Rogers, Charlotte O'Toole, Jolene Guerra, Ruth Lucy, Bill Quinn.

OTHERS PRESENT: JODI GIBELEY, Director of COA and members of the Town Hall Building Project: Greggor Smith; Kelli Hebert, Town Administrator; Martha Morrison.

1. AGENDA ITEM: To see if the Council on Aging will vote to endorse the Town Hall Project that appears on the warrant for this year's Town Meeting (5/3/2016) and as a debt exclusion question on the May 5th ballot.

(A)- DISCUSSION

- Jodi reported that many seniors are concerned about their taxes increasing and that the cost could go above the projected \$4.00 average increase per household. Some didn't like the use of glass and the "look" of the new addition. We are asking for the warrant article not to go over the projected \$9.7 million. Need to have a 2/3 vote at Town Mtg. before it will be voted on on May 5th.
- 2.55% is our current loan interest rate. Most likely will go higher in the future.
- Seniors want to know how much the addition costs vs restoring the old building without the addition.
- Old Building is non ADA compliant, not equally accessible for those with disabilities. Needs elevator, more office space,
- Improve deteriorated infrastructure.
- A Fact Sheet will appear on the Town Website, The Tri-Town Transcript and in the Scoop on reasons to support the renovations and addition to Town Hall. If voted down, the town could be forced to do accommodations they are not prepared to do, should the town be sued for a non-compliance issue.
- The COA space will actually be a "community use" space in the hours when COA is not open. (After 3:00 PM).
- The addition to Town Hall satisfies the needs of the recent independent study on COA designated space.

(B) MOTION MADE: "We the Council on Aging Board of Directors approve and support the building and renovation of Topsfield Town Hall as outlined in warrant #24, the Town Hall Building Project, by the Town Hall Building Committee."

MOTION SECONDED: The vote to endorse the Town Hall Building Project was; 7 in favor, 4 abstained.

Meeting adjourned 4:35 PM

Respectfully submitted: Charlotte O'Toole, Recording Secretary