

**Notes on Zoom meeting between Community Center Building Committee members Ruth Townsend, Terry Sobolewski & Ford Spalding and Full Gym Proponents Jessa McIntosh & Meggan Newmarker on Monday, January 25, 2021 from 11:30am to 12:30pm.**

Prior to the meeting Ford Spalding sent to all participants the following two Committee documents:

- Dover Community Center Frequently Asked Questions dtd December 2020
- Proponent Pathway for Voter Consideration of Additional Space Requests for the Community Center Project dtd 01/23/2021

Ford opened the meeting by referring to the two document explaining the process to have a future Town Meeting and Town election approve expansion of the Selectmen's Charge to the Committee dated November 6, 2019 which supports the vote of the October 2019 Special Town Meeting vote. At the current stage of our process, we do not have the budget that can support any expansion of the building size for the project. The Committee's not to exceed budget is \$13m.

Ford showed the attendees the current full space layout of the Concept Design as will be shown at the January 25, 2021 regular Building Committee meeting (Power Point Slides 9-11).

Coming into the meeting Jessa & Meggan had thought that the Building Committee could include the full Gym expansion in our recommendation to the town and that we, the Building Committee, would advocate for it to the Town and future Town Meeting. We explained that we could not.

We concluded the meeting by asking them to meet with us again at 11:30am by Zoom on Monday, February 1, 2021 to continue our discussion at to hear their plans to move forward with expanding the recreation area to a full-size Gym. We also expressed our appreciation for their interest and the hope that their engagement would energize further citizen interest in the work we were doing to bring to the Town a future Community Center solution to improve on what we currently have in Dover's town center.

**Email Communication on Monday, February 1, 2021 between the above-named attendees of the January 25 meeting:**

**From:** Jessa McIntosh <[jessamcintosh@gmail.com](mailto:jessamcintosh@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 1, 2021 7:36 AM  
**To:** Ford Spalding <[fspalding@fbeins.com](mailto:fspalding@fbeins.com)>  
**Cc:** Ruth Townsend (<[aandrtownsend@yahoo.com](mailto:aandrtownsend@yahoo.com)> <[aandrtownsend@yahoo.com](mailto:aandrtownsend@yahoo.com)>); Terry Sobolewski (<[tmsobs@yahoo.com](mailto:tmsobs@yahoo.com)> <[tmsobs@yahoo.com](mailto:tmsobs@yahoo.com)>); Newmarker Megghan <[megganh26@gmail.com](mailto:megganh26@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: Our Zoom Call on this Monday, February 1 @ 11:30am

Hi Ford,

Thank you for setting up this meeting; however, Meggan and I have decided that we are not going to pursue a separate warrant article for the stand-alone gym or expanded recreational space. We're happy to reach out to other parents that are enthusiastic about the gym to take on the warrant article, if you all would like a separate group to continue these efforts. For Meggan and I, as Program Directors, our focus for field hockey and lacrosse is pursuing a multi-purpose surface/turf in Dover, so we feel our bandwidth is best spent on that effort. Thank you for your time and willingness to listen to our concerns with regard to the current plans for the recreational space.

We would recommend documenting our meeting for your records and transparency in terms of issues/concerns raised and your committee's recommendation to take up a separate warrant article due to two major constraints that impede the Building Committee's ability to study a standalone gym or expanded rec space. I would anticipate other parents asking similar questions as we did.

Again, thank you very much to you, Ruth and Terry - appreciate the time and consideration.

Best regards,  
Jessa

**From:** Ford Spalding  
**Sent:** Monday, February 1, 2021 10:08 AM  
**To:** 'Jessa McIntosh' <[jessamcintosh@gmail.com](mailto:jessamcintosh@gmail.com)>  
**Cc:** Ruth Townsend (<[aandrtownsend@yahoo.com](mailto:aandrtownsend@yahoo.com)> <[aandrtownsend@yahoo.com](mailto:aandrtownsend@yahoo.com)>); Terry Sobolewski (<[tmsobs@yahoo.com](mailto:tmsobs@yahoo.com)> <[tmsobs@yahoo.com](mailto:tmsobs@yahoo.com)>); Newmarker Megghan <[megghanh26@gmail.com](mailto:megghanh26@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Our Zoom Call on this Monday, February 1 @ 11:30am / Expanded Recreation Space

Jessa

Thank you for letting us know and we certainly understand. Our Community Center Building Committee thanks you and Meggan for meeting Ruth, Terry and me on Monday, January 25. We had a good discussion, and we understand and appreciate your interest in expanded recreation space in a Dover Community Center. We also know your preference is for a regulation gym. We also know you understand that we are bound by a \$13mm budget and committed to creating a Dover community center for "ages 2 to 92". A place to bring the community together for socializing and activities of all kinds. We ask that you stay interested and involved in this important project. We invite you to attend our meetings, all community forums and, of course, a future Town Meeting. We also request that you spread the word and ask for support from your Dover friends, neighbors, and contacts. We need to get to YES. If we do not, then we are left with what we have now. I do not think anyone wants that result. We, in Dover, can do better.

We will be posting this email conversation and additional information related to our January 25 meeting on the Town website.

See you both soon ... online if not in person. All the best.

**Ford Spalding**  
Chair, Community Center Building Committee  
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