

**Somers Ad Hoc Strategic Mill Committee
Meeting Minutes-September 11, 2017
Selectmen's Conference Room**

Call to Order: 6:03 P.M.

Members Present Ralph Williams, Tim Potrikus, Joe Iadarola, Erik Ness, Mike Marinaccio, Bud Knorr, Jeff Bord, Courtney Hendrickson, Kathy Devlin, Tim Keeney, and Brad Pellissier

Approval of Minutes: May 1st, 2017- Motion: Keeney. Second: Williams. Abstained. Erik Ness (due to absence). Approved by majority.

June 12th Minutes: Motion: Keeney second Williams. "Correction: misspelling of Erik Ness, must be K on Erik. Approved with noted changes, unanimous.

July 31st- Motion: Williams second Potrikus. "Correction: misspelling of Erik Ness, must be K on Erik. Approved with noted changes, unanimous.

Demolition Update: Debris is being removed and sent to Ohio. Today 6 truckloads went out. Inspection of the bricks on site indicate they are scrubbed, cleaned and they will be moved to the center for crushing for use as fill. Costello Construction hired American Production for remediation.

The trailer for use by Eagle and other contractors has been placed on the property behind the Village Players building. Eagle Environmental has not detected asbestos residue on site.

Wooden beams, date stones, and brownstone have been recovered and moved to storage at the DPW.

Once the site is cleaned the pipes will go into the river. Barry Giroux is working with the Army Corp of Engineers for the timing of the permit. The pond had been lowered and once they are working in the river the water will be shut off.

Steel has been separated, cleaned, and reclaimed.

Update on Funding: Bud Knorr and Jeff Bord went before the Department of Transportation and the discussion ensued about funding. Until the State budget is passed, there is no clear conversation about the funding. Mr. Marinaccio explained that the grant money awarded has been placed in the books, and as booked as committed. The selectmen clearly are in sync with the CFO that they will spend money within the appropriations and not more. If needed, the requests for funds will occur as soon as the State passes a budget.

Courtney Hendrickson is working on grants right now through CRCOG.

The Maple Street bridge fund was earmarked but because of the State delays, the Town may have to reapply for that grant money.

There is enough money to do the Mill cleanup. Any extra would only come after the funds are made available.

Jeff Bord said the site will be cleaned up, stabilized, with fill, grass, etc. The place will be remediated and cleaned up.

Phase III environmental studies are staged to take place after the buildings are down. The site must be nearing completion before this effort can occur.

Potential Redevelopment: Courtney Hendrickson and CIRC will be working on the marketing aspects and she will put together the marketing package based on the proposed project. She is also working on the CRCOG Metro Brownfields Revolving Loan Program for grant money. Courtney saw no set back for a potential developer, and the Town going after a grant can be attractive for a prospective developer.

The committee discussed the wall integrity of bedrock and the potential for grants to improve the aesthetics. The most important feature is to assure the 100-year flood requirements.

Joe Iadarola reminded the group the importance to file for a new FEMA Flood Plan as soon as the area is ready. It makes a big difference for the potential buyer to get permits and ease development. Jeff Bord said that Milan and McBroom will be doing the plan and the application will go in. The developer will want to see the plan.

Tim Keeney asked for a timeline. There is a week to week meeting and that is where the Town learns of the progress.

Members of the committee were discussing alternative revenue sources.

Public Information: Members of the committee suggest that the website should house the information on the front page for easy clicking and direct access to the information. Town workers claim it was on the front, but the committee felt that there was lost opportunity. The BOS will check with Ms. LaFleur to have the website restored to the more favorable position on the front page.

Next Meeting: October 10, 2017. Suggested items for the agenda include: website update, marketing, grants, funding, and project update.

Respectfully submitted: Kathleen A. Devlin, secretary