



Town of Reading Meeting Minutes

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Board - Committee - Commission - Council:

Reading Center for Active Living Committee

Date: 2023-02-01

Time: 7:00 PM

Building: Reading Town Hall

Location: Select Board Meeting Room

Address: 16 Lowell Street

Session:

Purpose: ReCalc Meeting

Version:

Attendees: **Members - Present:**

Ron Assini, Mark Dockser, Norra Bucko, John Parsons, John Sasso, John O'Neill

Members - Not Present:

Others Present:

Genevieve Fiorente, Marilyn Shapleigh

Minutes Respectfully Submitted By: Ron Assini

Topics of Discussion:

THIS IS A HYBRID MEETING

Topic: RECALC Monthly Meeting

Time: Feb 1, 2023 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85283532914?pwd=eVNWSTY4ZWtVZS9OaVptaWVPUEZSdz09>

Meeting ID: 852 8353 2914

Passcode: 287678

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1. Attendance
2. Acceptance of Minutes of January 11th, 2023
3. Feasibility Study for site of new center
4. Review of summary of ReCALC's work & Updated Memo/Report from UMASS
5. Next steps for communications efforts
6. Scheduling next meeting

Acceptance of Minutes of January 11th, 2023

Approved of the minutes from the January 11, 2023

Ron Assini, Mark Dockser, Norra Bucko, John Parsons, John O'Neill, John Sasso

Mark Dockser provided a summary of the latest with potential new sites.
Feasibility Study of site of new center.

The Town of Reading issued an RFP for potential properties. Two responses were received.
One from former Walgreen Hardnen St and one from former RiteAid on Haven St.

While there are new owners for the former Walgreen building.
A feasibility study for a one site is being considered.

Mark provided a timeline for the process of how it would be presented to the town, with a
Town Meeting, and most likely a special Town Voting day in fall 2024.

RiteAid is a longer process because it will most likely require a complete tear down and new
building.

There are no other major sites that can be considered beyond Symonds Way and Oakland
Rd.

A level 1 environmental study was completed on the Walgreen's building with an initial clean
report because of the building being relatively new (20 years).

What is the future of ReCALC for the next steps. ReCALC did propose a Building working
group.

Select Board will need to make a decision in an Executive Session next week.

Many of the town's organizations have via developing a non-profit fund raising for a new
center. Fund raises helps with funding programs and equipment etc.

John Sasso, discussed the feasibility study. How does the Select Board make an executive
decision ? How is the scoring done? Timing, costs etc.

The board will not be able to pursue both site options.

ReCALC can continue to communicate to the community for the need to take action, get
involved.

The Town has two large capital needs for the community, a New Senior/Community Center
and Killam elementary rebuild. These needs to be inclusive of both projects.

Review of the ReCALC developed by John Sasso was discussed. A huge thank you to John
Sasso for providing an excellent first draft a ReCALC report. Some feedback was provided
to highlight certain recommendation in the report more boldly. John Sasso to provide an
update on newer report based on the feedback in the next couple of weeks.

COA is in the process of producing a video for new Senior Center (working with RCTV for
production). Target is for a March 2023 deliverable.

Next steps for Communication Plan.

Finish the summary report and provide an excerpt and potentially make it into a Newsletter.

Jenna suggested other media vehicles to publish and advocate the report, Town Manager newsletter, Edline, and Social Media.

Next Meeting Wednesday February 22, 2023. 7:00pm

Hybrid option – Select Board Meeting Room and Zoom

Motion to adjourn:

Ron Assini, Mark Dockser, Norra Bucko, John Parsons, John Sasso, John O'Neill