

Ad Hoc Committee on Groton Polling Places

Minutes of Meeting – 21 January 2014 – Town Hall Selectmen’s Meeting Room

Chairman Stuart Schulman called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM.

Present were:

Michael Bouchard – Advisor
Michelle Collette
Berta Erickson
Mark Haddad – Advisor
Scott Harked (via telephone)
Brooks Lyman
Carol Quinn
Stuart Schulman
Susan Slade

The committee was polled on their choices for polling places for Precincts 2 & 3 (separately), with the following results.

Precinct 2 - 1st – Groton Pool and Golf Center
 2nd – Groton wood
 3rd – Town Hall

Precinct 3 - 1st – Town Hall
 2nd – Prescott School
 3rd – Groton Pool and Golf Center

The selection process was accompanied by discussions of the merits and demerits of the various sites:

It was pointed out that Town Hall might have some parking and driving access problems.

The Pool and Golf Center has handicapped access problems as well as possible difficulty for non-handicapped but less-mobile persons due to the uphill walk from the main parking lot.

Grotonwood is private and will probably require a fee. There may be a problem with children on site as it is a camp during the warm weather (maybe not on weekdays?).

Prescott School has parking and driving access problems, but is handicap accessible. It may also be sold in the near future.

Brief mention was made of The Barn at Gibbet Hill (probably much too expensive, assuming availability; also serious parking problems); the currently vacant stores at Shaw’s Plaza (cost unknown, also may be rented at any time; and the Gym at the High School (can be isolated, but students are still on campus, and it’s a long way from most people’s houses).

The following criteria were suggested for further evaluation of the sites (not in any particular order):

Permanent location?
Proximity to precinct?
Security issues?
Startup and ongoing operating costs?
Voter acceptance of the location?
Parking?
Handicapped Access (ADA/AAB) issues?
Separate or combined precinct polling places?
Traffic problems on street/road leading to polling place?
Availability the day (afternoon) before election for setup?

It was decided that Mike Bouchard, Brooks Lyman and Susan Slade would investigate Grotonwood on Monday, 27 January at 10:30 AM (if that time is convenient for Grotonwood personnel).

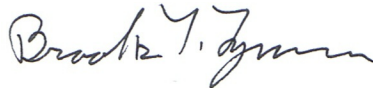
It was decided that Michelle Collette and Scott Harker would get together with Ed Cataldo (and maybe Tom Delaney) to investigate the Pool and Golf Center.

The next meeting was scheduled for Monday, 27 January 2014 at 2:00 PM in the Selectmen's Meeting Room.

The minutes of the last meeting were read, amended and approved.

The meeting was adjourned approximately 3:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Brooks Lyman
Secretary

Amended and approved – 27 January 2014