

Rob Stephenson's Comments on Meeting of December 18, 2020

Attending: David Belletete, Bernie Hampsey, Bruce Hill, Maryann Lindberg, Rob Stephenson, Charlie Turcotte.

- Bruce gave background to the Civic Center-Historical Society master planning effort.
- Mike thought the roof might be original. Not so. Worth researching when it was replaced.
- Mike's estimate of 30 parking spaces was questioned. More like 15-20.
- Regarding date of building's opening: The Town History says it "was completed" in 1965.
- Mike's draft was revised by Rob and Bruce, mostly correcting errors and adding some content. The draft reviewed at this meeting will be revised, circulated to those attending and sent to Mike. Also, it will be sent to the respective boards by Rob or Bruce and by Maryann.
- Civic Center is presently advertising for a new executive director.
- The launch of a Civic Center endowment will wait until the new director is on board.
- David commented that the Civic Center should focus on "programs and activities."
- The role of the Jaffrey-Gilmore Foundation was discussed.
- Apparently the income from Civic Center classes, pre-pandemic, was good.
- A non-working plumbing valve of some sort needs replacing in the archives room. This would require most everything to be removed during the replacement.
- The Jaffrey Historical Society hasn't really grappled with what it wants to do long term: stay in the Civic Center, find a new location in Jaffrey, continue

using some space in the Civic Center but not all, etc. The Society hasn't undertaken any real strategic planning other than what's been discussed as part of the Petrovick study.

- David threw out the idea of the Historical Society taking over the Auditorium with the Civic Center's Gallery role being concentrated on the second floor.
- Rob opined that the Civic Center has no spaces that are really ideal for Historical Society activities. The Auditorium comes closest to appropriate space to be used from programs: accessible, large enough, projection system, etc.
- The master planning process, although including some proposals that probably will never be pursued for whatever reason, has the value of engendering discussion and thinking about the future,
- The present Library was discussed. Would be best suited as the office for the Executive Director. The books present a challenge. Is there a way to use them more? Would the Jaffrey Public Library want to take over the collection, either at its facility or at the Civic Center.
- Maryann suggested a meeting in January to include the respective Boards and to focus on strategic planning. Saturday, January 9, from 10-12 at the Civic Center was suggested. Question: can this be safely/legally done in person?