

## Report of the Selectmen's Community Center Study Committee (CCSC)

March 10, 2015

Attached is the report of the Selectmen's Community Center Study Committee. We appreciate your interest in this topic and would like to provide some background and perspective to assist your review of the report.

The Committee was tasked with helping the Selectmen consider options for addressing the facilities needs of the Council on Aging (COA), the Parks and Recreation Department (PRD), and other community organizations. The Selectmen have focused on this subject for several years, including devoting significant time to it at the last two State-of-the-Town Meetings. We thank the Committee for its thorough analysis of the options and for raising a number of important questions for future analysis. We also thank the Committee for organizing a public discussion that truly engaged the community. The Committee has helped the Town better understand the challenges and the opportunities involved with addressing our need for better facilities for the COA, the PRD and others. We look forward to the opportunity to review the schematic level designs this spring after the Committee and our consultants have completed this work, with the benefit of public input. We will make the schematics available as an addendum to the report. Schematic designs will help illustrate our vision for the interior and exterior building spaces and architecture, and will provide context for the next round of community discussions. Importantly, schematic drawings also provide the basis on which our project consultants can provide more precise cost projections.

Next, our Board will be working in partnership with the School Committee to develop a master plan for the Ballfield Road campus, the funding for which will be requested during our upcoming Annual Town Meeting. This study will provide information that is critical to the planning for both the school building project and for a community center.

We will then consult carefully with the Finance Committee, the Capital Planning Committee and other key town boards and committees to determine an appropriate timetable for moving forward with the next stages of planning and design. It is our intention to work in collaboration with the School Committee to develop a plan that makes the best use of the campus, that, where appropriate, takes advantage of opportunities to share spaces and to do joint programming, and that increases the opportunities for residents of all ages to come together.

Again, a warm thank you to the Committee for its contributions to this important Town conversation, and to the many residents who took the time to participate.

Renel Fredriksen  
Noah Eckhouse  
Peter Braun

***Board of Selectmen***

