

Animal Shelter Building Committee
Meeting
March 20, 2013

The meeting of the Animal Shelter Building Committee was called to order by Chairman Gerry Craig at 7:00p.m. in Room 104 of Shelton City Hall, 54 Hill Street, Shelton, CT 06484 on Wednesday, March 20, 2013. The following members were in attendance: Chairman Gerry Craig, Roberta Reynolds, Linda Hooper, Irene McCoy and AJ Grasso. Steven Martino and Tony Minopoli were absent. Sheryl Taylor also attended.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

Recited

2. Public Participation

None

3. Approval of Minutes

Roberta Reynolds made a motion to accept the minutes of the November 21, 2012 meeting. AJ Grasso seconded the motion. All were in favor.

4. Communications

Gerry reported on a phone call from neighbor Tom Muscato. He wants to meet with the Mayor, Paul DiMauro and Gerry pertaining to the PVC fence and the plantings.

5. Old Business

None

6. New Business

A. Bills Rendered

None

B. Weathervane Discussion

Linda Hooper purchased and wishes to donate a weathervane depicting a dog and a cat to the new shelter. All members loved it and thought it would be a perfect addition to the roof of the new shelter. Linda was thanked for her efforts in finding this and her generosity.

C. Report from Bismark Construction

Gerry introduced Greg Raucci, Sr, Greg Raucci, Jr of Bismark Construction Co., and Brandt Jobst of Wiles Architects. He turned the meeting over to them for their explanation and discussion of the project.

A booklet was passed out to all attendees depicting the areas of the shelter. Brandt explained how the plans have been fine tuned, showing on the diagram the entrance area/lobby and the adoption room made to look more like a living room to promote more adoptions. He showed how the office was moved closer to the activities of the day. He explained the use of the “cat condos”, stating they will be more visible. Irene asked if she could see them on display anywhere. He referred her to some websites as well as presenting some catalogs. He is trying to make the food storage area larger. Currently, the space is 10’ by 7’. A discussion took place on the need for more storage space and ways on how to achieve it.

Greg spoke about the fact that the building is being constructed in the most energy efficient manner in order to save money. He said the building will be a totally metal structure. Putting the air handlers in the ceiling is being considered to create extra space.

Sheryl brought up the point that the Stratford Shelter is currently using a chemical that does not kill Parvo virus. It was agreed that this fact needs to be researched as to whether they are simply using the wrong chemical or if the vacuum system cannot handle the correct chemicals to be used in order to kill Parvo.

Gerry reiterated that the design of the new shelter achieves 3 goals:

- To provide safety and shelter for strays and abandoned animals,
- A center to promote adoptions
- And a facility that can educate the public, specifically targeting school/youth groups, on responsible pet ownership and the problems of pet overpopulation.

Sheryl asked about a quarantine area for cats. Brandt said that it can be achieved with a separate cat condo.

Gerry asked Sheryl to closely examine the plans to determine if there is any last minute needed adjustments, additions, or deletions.

Greg said the roof would be metal and not asphalt. There will be more windows and they will be taller to provide more natural light. Lights will be on a motion sensor to keep costs down.

Additional points mentioned by Greg and Brandt were:

- Windows will be of heavy glass, specifically addressing security issues
- The width between the kennels will be wider
- There will be more doors for better and more efficient egress
- Epoxy resin paint will be used for better cleanliness
- T Kennels from the Shoreline Company will be used. They are stainless steel with 6’ fiberglass panels between the kennels. This prevents visual contact by the dogs between kennels. Panels can be easily replaced and are not expensive.

- The trough will have an automatic flush
- Noise level can be kept down by providing more free space. OSHA rules pertaining to noise must be considered. They are looking into to an insulation system
- There will be double doors at end of kennels to provide access for large items
- NOK has been hired for site drawings. They are 4 weeks out from finishing drawings. They will then be sent to the State Department of Agriculture for approval.

Greg said the contracts are very closed to be signed by the City and Bismark. He expects to break ground by June 1st with construction being completed hopefully by November 1st.

Roberta asked which towns use the cleaning system that is planned for Shelton. Greg Jr said Stratford, Newtown and Easton.

AJ thanks Greg Sr, Greg Jr, and Brandt for an excellent presentation.

7. Adjournment

AJ Grasso made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Linda Hooper seconded it. All were in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail S. Craig

Clerk

Minutes done from notes and audio tape. Tape will be submitted to City/Town Clerk.