

Walker Building Repurposing Committee

Wednesday, March 25th 2026.

Attendance: Barbara Edmond, Harry S, Elise Brown, Carol McGovern, Hannah Hatfield, Isa Oberle, Bob Kohl, Peter Beckford, Richard King, Mica Whitney

Whole Committee Agenda:

HOUSEKEEPING

- Approval minutes - 3/4
 - Elise made a motion to accept the minutes as written, Richard 2nd, all in favor, minutes accepted as is.

CELEBRATIONS

- Grants! All 3 federal funding requests are in thanks to Bob, Elise, Barbara, and Cheryl! Richard supplied numbers, Carol helped get letters of support. A true team effort to be celebrated!

TOWN MEETING PREP

- Preview of PowerPoint presentation for our 5-minute update at Saturday's town mtg. Suggestions wanted!
 - Elise presented the PowerPoint Presentation that will be shared at Town Meeting on March 28th, 2026.
 - Link to [slideshow](#)
- Alignment from group regarding talking points when in casual conversation

WORDS - Lead by Barbara and Richard

- Barbara opened up the activity by referencing the prior activity where we came up with how we wanted to feel, this time she is asking about design choices that will actualize those feelings.
 - On the pink page - write one idea per page, any idea for "bright and airy" lens.
 - On yellow page - write one idea per page, any idea for "welcoming, inviting, warm, and cozy" lens
 - On blue page - write one idea per page, any idea for "updated, attractive, flexible" lens

BUILDING PLANS PRESENTATION

- Richard presented his Slideshow presentation plan for the Walker Building.
 - Richard provided the reminder that these plans are not set in stone, they are just part of the process for finding the best plans.

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- Link to slide show?
- Discussion on accessibility for Town office in “original” vs “new” part of building.
 - Elise shared she feels we need to prioritize accessibility.
 - Conversation continued on what modern accessibility needs and access town services vs historical precedence

Elise made a motion to move “Community feedback” to the next meeting and close today’s meeting, Isa second, all in favor. Passed.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK PROCESS

- Community feedback/request process - each team (facilities, fundraising, etc.) should have a process to receive & consider community requests to make sure we fulfill our obligations as a committee to make this a community-responsive project. Suggestions made regarding this to the facilities team since those requests are coming in. We really should have something like this across the board. Let's ask the committee if these are the correct parameters to consider:

A Possible Community Input Consideration Process

1. Intake & Documentation of Each Request

- Log the request in a simple, standardized format (e.g., who it came from, the request itself, and the reason behind it).
- Capture requests from residents, staff, user groups, committees, and boards in the same format to ensure fairness.

2. Team Evaluation Using a Consistent Rubric

Each request could be reviewed using common criteria such as:

- *Accessibility*: Does this improvement increase accessibility or remove barriers for residents or staff?
- *Alignment with Purpose*: Does it support the core purpose of the Community Center and Town Office as a place for public service, community connection, and civic engagement?
- *Budget Impact*: Is the cost low, moderate, or high? Are there grant or partnership possibilities?
- *Operational Impact*: Would the idea improve or complicate day-to-day operations?
- *Design & Implementation Feasibility*: Would this introduce technical challenges or require major redesign?

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- *Community Inclusion*: Does the change benefit a broad range of residents and community users?
- *Sustainability*: Does it help create long-term, durable, cost-effective solutions?

3. Documentation of the Team's Reasoning and Conclusions

For each request:

- Summarize the team's assessment.
- If the request is not taken forward, note why, and list any alternatives considered.
- If the idea is partially accepted or modified, explain how and why.
- If the idea is fully accepted, note next steps and timeline.

4. Communication Back to the Committee and Community

Providing a brief written summary of how input was handled—whether in committee packets, public meeting materials, or an accessible online log—helps close the feedback loop. This builds trust and demonstrates accountability.

5. Periodic Review of the Process

As more input is collected, the team can refine the rubric and communication method to ensure it remains responsive and effective.