Minutes

SACRED HEART REUSE COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 5, 2008

The Sacred Heart Reuse Committee held its first meeting on March 5, 2008 at 7:30 PM at the Community Center. Members present were: Stephen Carter, John Davis, Rita Fontes, Ed Keenan, Alan Wachman and Irene McCarthy.

A motion was made and seconded that John Davis be appointed Chairman of the Committee. J. Davis accepted, a vote was taken and the motion carried.

A discussion ensued as to when meetings will be held. It was unanimously decided that the Committee will meet the on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month, with meetings to begin at 7:30 and end by 9:00 PM. The Committee will attempt to hold meetings at the Community Center, whenever possible.

It was agreed that the Chairman will invite a member of the Board of Selectmen to attend our next meeting on March 19, 2008, in order to give the Committee some insight as to the nature and scope of the Committee's duties and responsibilities. The Committee also wishes to learn the identities of those persons or entities who may have already contacted the Selectmen to express an interest in the property.

In the future, the Committee intends to invite representatives of various Town boards, committees and commissions, as well as other interested groups and residents, to provide suggestions, recommendations and ideas for future uses of the property. Before doing so, however, we wish to learn more about the history and details of the site. Along those lines, the Committee will invite area residents with specialized knowledge of the history of the Sacred Heart property to address the Committee and provide us with background information. Among those mentioned as potential invitees were Greg Meister, David DePree, Eli Hauzer and a representative of the Sharon Historical Commission. The Chairman will also contact Ben Puritz to arrange a site visit of the property.

S. Carter raised the possibility of using the property as a lifestyle center. He identified the Derby Street Mall in Hingham as an example of such a use. Other examples mentioned included the Jon Smith Recreational Center in Norfolk, and the Dana Barrows Center in Walpole. Discussion followed regarding potential recreational uses of the property, with an eye toward taking advantage of the proximity of the site to other recreational facilities in the vicinity.

The Committee adjourned at approximately 8:55 PM.