

Westcustogo Meeting

July 7, 2016

Approved last meeting notes

In attendance this evening

Paul Hodgetts

Clark Baston

Steve Friedrich

Rod Duckworth

Darla Hamlin

Lincoln Merrill

Steve Barr

Brian Sites

Jen Smith

Starting right off with Linc Merrill

He has taken a stand

The grange was owned by the grange association

Hall built 40/50's

Owned by grange but used by community

A corporation was formed so town never lost grange hall

Grange association ran hall even though the grange was no longer

Due to legalities the association transferred the ownership to town

Grange hall was used for everything basically hall was auditorium for school

Mouton and Smith for the town struck 9' agreement with the association to take over hall

3 grange members and

2 selectman set up to make sure everything was on the up and up

Baston, Blain and Merrill have been on group since the beginning of it

Corporation was reopened as zombie corporation 90 day window expires in August

Blain Karl and Linc have spoken often about resolution

Clarifying many points from 97 resolution

- town is never going to approve a plan with more than one plan in it

- master plan was set up by selectmen never discussed by association

- selectman tried to throw out 97 agreements but were told they couldn't

- today we are really tired about all talk and no walk

- 2025 town could vote to do something different with grange hall...flexibility was set up on purpose but not so selectmen are threatening to use it to get what they want

- rebuild at originally site /hall Committee decided to break ground by 2017

Insurance policy if held true to municipal replacement cost of the building is covered only limitation is if an authority came in and tells us to do something and we so no the insurance company will buck at us

Additional money for planning architect, foundation work additional amount etc.

Due money for rents we couldn't collect

Due extra money to go somewhere else

Concerns we are hearing

Amount of parking plus over flow in town office amounts to 45 spaces

Linc thinks we can create 50 more spaces at town hall property

Us -your concern is it won't get built if we don't put it back there?

Linc-No because the town will keep grouping it up and it will never pass

Concern about the passing and losing more active resident grange members

us- we are going to have issues with old site

Point Made - If use new grange as emergency shelter we will need more parking

Rebuttal we use green space if it's an emergency....

Darla's thoughts emotional ties, selectman committee for it at one time, likes nymys still as an option, real recreation area in town if Wescustogo was here and not separated between fields, gym, center,

Rebuttal from Linc - I would tear everything off NYMS and make a rec area nothing else

How big does the emergency shelter need to be?

Linc is opposed to moving to rural area

Wanted to move town hall to Gillespie's old site

If we move things out of the center, we have so little control of municipal buildings – feels we must keep them together

Us- if the “no” people agreed to let Wescustogo off the master plan would Linc agree

Rebuttal from Linc - directors have three weeks left if not moved before then Linc will tell them to rebuild in old site

Linc agreed that if all that was here was a gym and we put the Wescustogo on the front part he would stand behind it.

Related to grange and property after they opened zombie association they get a preference to recommend historical society building to grange property Scott Simons proposal was to put in a full foundation and put on an L front area old building for meetings and back would be new vault and work room. @\$750,000.00

The parking there would be sufficient for activities there.

What were the original uses for the grange?

Agriculture based group

Men and women in same group 14 and up...women can serve in every position. Women's rights, rural delivery of mail, no bankers no attorneys 1940/50 significant 600 people in the thirties [40/50 800](#) people in my grange had a population of 200 people plays, speakers, dinners, activities, everything that happened there. Ran the fairs, bean suppers every [Saturday night](#).

The nineteenth of July and the second of August are board of selectman meetings

Two meetings before your zombie association is nullified

One idea that has been brought up let Westcustogo Committee make the decision.

Has to be rebuilt but location does not have to be the same.

call with Rosemary to schedule

Shauna Mueller, Linc, selectman, some of us

next meeting July 21st

meeting adjourned

Over view of meeting summarized by Brian Sites

- 1) The current NYMS structure is to be torn down, preserving only the gymnasium.
- 2) Any future municipal facilities would a) be detached from Wescustogo/gym structure and b) on a separate part of the property so as to meet the green space requirement in the original grange agreement.
- 3) That there be a specific intent spelled out for the usage of the old Wescutogo site, with preference given to historical preservation activities (i.e., moving the Old Town House to the site).
- 4) That there be milestones for activities clearly defined so that the building of Wescustogo is as expedient and transparent as possible.
- 5) That a playground be part of the planning for the new Wescustogo