

A Community Center for Moultonborough



“A place where community members of all ages can meet for social, educational or recreational activities.”

Frequently Asked Questions:

Where is the Community Center to be located? The Moultonborough Community Center will be located on land currently owned by the Moultonborough School District and the Town of Moultonborough (Taylor Property).

Who is the Community Center designed for? The Community Center is designed to be a multi-generational facility offering a variety of activities, programs and opportunities to meet the social, recreational and educational needs of all Moultonborough citizens, both full time and seasonal.

Why do we need to build a new building? The proposed Community Center offers a wealth of endless possibilities and opportunities for the community for town wide events and community building activities.

What about the changing demographics in the community? This community center is designed for the entire community including youth, senior adults and all those in between. The possibilities are endless...adult and youth sports, educational opportunities, lectures, art shows, socials for both youth and adults, family special events, Senior Meals/Meals on Wheels, Women’s Club, Men’s Breakfast, adequate election polling space, as well as indoor options for summer day camp, after-school drop-in programs are just some of the many possibilities.

How much does the project cost? The estimated project total, excluding furniture, fixtures and equipment is:\$6,491,001 (includes all equipment that is screwed, glued or bolted and all site work, excavation etc.). This estimate was prepared by a professional construction estimator based on the conceptual design plans and the actual cost in a competitive bid environment is expected to be less.

How does that affect our long term financial stability i.e. tax rate? The impact on the tax rate will be neutral once the current school bond is retired in 2018. The estimated operating cost tax rate impact of the new facility is \$.06/1000.

What about other costs? There is an estimated one time equipment cost (that is not screwed, glued or bolted) of \$60,000.

The operating costs of the Community Center are estimated to be \$162,050. This would be added on to the Recreation Dept. operating budget which is currently \$335,408 for a total of \$497,458.00. Some of this

additional cost may be offset by reductions in other department budgets, such as DPW, which currently absorbs some recreation center operating expenses.

How was the square footage determined? The community center was designed to include all the activities and functions that occur in the Lion's Club building and indoor needs of the Recreation Department as well as meet the future needs of the community.

Besides those already mentioned how does the community center enhance our community? One important aspect is that it aligns very closely with the Village Vision report that was endorsed at the last Town Meeting. It would create a "vital town center" and a place for the community to gather. It will create a walkable town center with the schools, library, town hall and a community center all in close proximity. It would be a reason for people to come to the village and would promote economic development.

Are there potential cost offsets? Yes, if approved, private organizations and interested citizens will aggressively fundraise with a minimum target of 10% of the total cost. The Selectmen see the value of maintaining one modern, efficient building that could possibly utilize solar energy and biomass fuel as opposed to two older structures that are not energy efficient and will require major renovations, which will still not be sufficient to meet the current and future needs of the community. Putting the Lion's Club building and land up for sale and leasing the old recreation center (which was the former Town Hall, then Police Station) to a private business could also offset a portion of the total project cost.

What will happen to the former Taylor home and remaining unused property? The Selectmen are actively looking for interested parties to purchase and restore the former Taylor home for residential or mixed residential/commercial use. One interested party has already come forward to inspect the home. The remaining green space beside and behind the home will be retained by the Town for passive recreational activities with perhaps a gazebo and/or benches. The summer concert series would most likely move to this location.

So how is this decided? This will be voted on at the Annual Town Meeting on Saturday March 12, 2016. Because it is a bond issue, it will be a secret ballot vote and will require a 2/3 majority to pass. The voting will be "open" for at least one hour after conclusion of discussion .