

Town of Orange
ARPA Committee Meeting-Orange Town Hall
April 18, 2022 at 6:00pm

ARPA committee members present: John Barnes, Lee Cattaneo, Sue Perreault, Siobhan Perricone, Steve Simpson, Lee Youngman

Select Board Members present: Emily Ruff, Samantha LeFebvre and Sheila Stone

Others present: Kevin Wilson-Resident, Tony Lajeunesse - Resident

Call to order:

Ms. Youngman called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM and asked the committee members and others present in the room to briefly introduce themselves.

Appoint Committee Chair: On a motion made by Sue Perreault and seconded, Steve Simpson was nominated and appointed Chair.

Appoint Committee Vice Chair: On a motion made by Sue Perreault and seconded, Lee Youngman was nominated and appointed Vice Chair.

Public Comment: Emily Ruff, Select Board Chair, itemized projects the select board has already been working on. The town is moving forward on salary revisions, hiring bonuses and retention increases to attract and retain qualified road and administrative staff. Additionally, the town will be purchasing the Owl, equipment to increase residents' access to meetings, including speakers, a projector and screen or large screen television.

Samantha LeFebvre remarked that her takeaway from the April 4th public meeting was that transparency is very important and any way the town can increase access and transparency is money well spent. She also commented that the planning commission wants to install a bigger, well-lit message board in the town clerk's parking area, and explore options to install smaller message boards in East Orange and the eastern side of town.

Review Town of Orange ARPA Advisory Committee organizing document: Ms. Youngman reviewed the handout with the committee members. She reviewed open meeting requirements and asked the committee to consider the document at our next meeting.

Discuss town-wide mailing to solicit feedback and increase awareness and interest: The committee reviewed the draft letter Ms. Youngman prepared. Lee Cattaneo asked that we include the date of the next meeting and ask for feedback to come back to the town clerk's office prior to the meeting. On a motion made by Lee Youngman and seconded by Sue Perreault, the committee approved use of ARPA funds to pay the cost of the mailing.

Discuss Project Criteria:

The committee identified several considerations:

- Will this project be taken on by the town if ARPA funds are not available?
- Is the project a one-time expense or will it add on-going expenses to future budgets?
- Does the project make a lasting improvement to the situation it's proposing to fix?
- Does it fix issues within the original intent of the grant?
- Can the project be funded, in part or in whole, by other sources?
- Does the project reduce the town's exposure to future liability?

The committee recognizes other criteria may be identified as we move forward.

Set Date for next meeting: The next meeting is Tuesday, May 24th at 6pm at the Town Hall.

On a motion made by Ms. Perreault and seconded by Ms. Perricone, the meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM

Respectfully submitted:



Lee Youngman, Clerk of the committee