

Fire Department Building Committee January 24, 6:30 pm

Michael Hogan, Skip Bothfeld, Andy Luce, Dean Deasy and Karen Deasy

1. Review agenda

No revisions

2. Public comment

none

3. Review site inspections - lessons other departments .

The Committee discussed the recent trip to Williston and Bristol to see their stations, both facilities are new. Skip and Dean also recently toured East Montpelier's station. East Montpelier cut out many things from their plan that they are now finding a need for, they indicated that greater consideration should be given when deciding what should be included or cut as they are finding the need to expand already. East Montpelier did for cost savings remove finishing of the second level and completed that work themselves. Size of bays and space between equipment is important. All stations toured indicated decontamination areas are critical and should be planned for. All of the departments clearly had public areas and fire fighter only areas in their facilities. Some stations utilized key cards or individual id numbers, Provisions for bunk areas and sufficient flexible office spaces were important. Several of the departments indicated that if you needed an elevator while expensive that you shouldn't cut it.

Committee as a whole agreed they did not like the conference room on the second level and felt that the chief's office should be on the main level as well. Liked idea of training areas off of the bays as well for drills. Bristol had a separate gear area discussed how that functions and other options seen for gear storage. All of the departments we saw had some type of on site gear storage. Many of the stations had small decontamination areas, the need for stations to have on site decontamination for gear and equipment is a relatively new requirement and many of the departments we saw indicated they wished they had a separate area for this. Mike asked if there were any other stations in the area recently constructed. Skip indicated Lisbon NH was getting ready to move into theirs and that was a possibility.

4. Discuss facility

a. ambulance impacts and needs

The group discussed the recent problems of the Ambulance becoming a fast squad, and the possibility that perhaps one solution would be to incorporate the ambulance back into the fire service. Williston ran both fire and ems calls. Requirements specific to the rescue, office and file storage space, bay space, availability of the meeting and training areas were reviewed flexibility of spaces was important. Discussed East Montpelier as they also share space and allows VSP access. Driver training and fire medic were discussed. Many departments are changing to be able to provide both.

b. Training space and possible future living areas

Currently there is no full time need for on site sleeping areas, future needs may/will require the ability to provide onsite sleeping quarters for members especially if on call. Training areas could be included above the hazmat area off of the bay, the space would not need to be as extensive as the training area seen in Williston. Would provide hands on training outside of the field. Reviewed door sizes based on facilities 14' doors were a good investment and should be specified. Also painted floor areas in epoxy floor in truck areas, also liked auto close doors when the equipment went on a call. Radiant floor with modine heat and air evacuation units are all key components seen on site.

5. Other business

Fire department will develop a site plan for Town meeting questions, also talking points for community on facility needs.

6. Next meeting date February 21st 6:30 pm

7. Adjourn 7:45 Skip motion to adjourn Andy seconded

Submitted by Karen Deasy