

Peacham ARPA Community Input Session #1

<https://peacham.org/arpa/>

Sunday, April 10, 2022 at 2:00pm

Via Zoom

In attendance:

ARPA Committee: Gillian Sewake, Allie Webster, Beatrice Ring

Members of the Public: Rick Scholes; Annette Lorraine; Cecelia Kane, Mark Clough, Dave Edwards, Wendy Morgan, Mark Simakaski, Robert Bartell, Laurie Kozar

The committee presented a slide deck (attached) with an overview of ARPA, its purpose, what Peacham has received, and the committee's charge to provide a recommendation on how the funds should be spent to the Selectboard.

The committee invited community input about the process, proposals, and the decision-making considerations:

- Mark S. advocated for the fire station's rescue vehicle. He offered that consideration of inflation may support us spending all of the funds now, rather than waiting for future needs.
- Mark C. offered two suggestions:
 - To address the land next to the school, possibly to create a community trails system. Mark will explore connecting with the Vermont Land Trust and the school to see if submitting an official proposal
 - Peacham Community Housing should receive support to put housing in the Science Building.
- Dave E. and Kalanani Galas will be submitting a proposal for renovations to the Town Gym to improve it for a wide variety of community events and activities.
- Rick S. and Annette L. will be submitting a proposal to turn the trail "Lanesboro Road" into a class 4 road, to connect the residents on the far side of Peacham (only accessible by road from Cabot) to the village center, and provide better access for emergency services.
 - Mark S. confirmed that emergency services are challenged to get to that area of town.
- Rick S. offered a question about the high speed backbone. He assumes that the backbone would reach areas already fairly well served. He suggests instead that the town contribute to the purchase of Starlink equipment for residents instead.
- Cecelia K. offered her support for the PFD #1 proposals about infrastructure to improve the wells and equipment related to the Village's water system.

The committee requested input on the outreach strategy, and how best to reach the most people:

- Mark S. suggested multiple Transfer Station appearances.

- Rick S. suggested putting a poster directly on the front door to the town offices.
- Wendy M. suggested setting up a survey for community members to weigh in and rank proposals.
- Mark S. suggested Front Porch Forum.
- Mark C. suggested submitting it in the school bulletin.
- Cecelia K. offered to reach out to the Academy Apartments residents.
- Dave E. asked who the point of contact would be for the Pavilion proposal. Allie suggested that the committee add the name and contact information of the point person to the proposal spreadsheet.

Reminder: ARPA Community Input Session #2 - Sunday, April 24, 2pm

Zoom: us06web.zoom.us/j/88699954229

Or call in: (646) 558-8656 with Meeting ID: 886 9995 4229

Meeting adjourned at 2:50pm