

Gazebo Committee Meeting Minutes

August 9, 2023

In Attendance: Allie Evans, Rob Wright, Laura Richardson, Liza Martin, Katie Marrow, Jim Crozier, Jeff Russ, John Evans, Connie Holt (note-taker)

Al Litchfield, Chad Mathrani and Andrew Clark attend meeting to discuss locally sourced and built gazebo designs.

Wright starts meeting with a round of introductions.

Al Litchfield begins discussion asking the committee what they are looking for in a gazebo. A. Evans gives background information on the process of the committee. Litchfield runs through what he believes some of the components are for a locally sourced gazebo. He states that it is too big a project for him to do, but he would be happy to be involved.

Chad Mathrani introduces his company Vermont Natural Homes. He describes his company as buying and milling local wood (no plywood); high quality work that feeds back into the local economy. They are based in Brattleboro but most of his employees live in Townshend. He describes the building of the pavilion in West Townshend as a community endeavor and event.

Andrew Clark, form Vermont Natural Homes, states that there a couple ways to approach the project. He can submit a proposal that has their company doing from start to finish and they can also submit proposal that has community involvement in different parts of the project and with materials. He also gives two examples of making the project a community event: West Townshend Country Store Pavilion and the Guilford Community Church pavilion in the Village of Algiers.

Wright asks Mathrani and Clark to submit a quote for a turnkey project, but have it itemized to allow for community involvement. Clark says he can do that.

Wright gives some basic design elements for the gazebo;

18 – 24 feet in size

8 – 8.5 feet in height

18 inches overhang

8 even sides

There is a discussion of ADA accessibility.

The Committee and VT Natural Homes decide that they will submit two project designs;

1. Gazebo Structure on a slab (no steps and no ramp)
2. Gazebo Structure with two steps and a ramp.

VT Natural Homes says it will be a quote that will be within 5 – 10% accurate. They agree to get the quotes to the committee by the September 6th Committee meeting. Clark states that they are pretty much booked up for the fall, but they view this as an important project.

Litchfield , Mathrani, and Clark leave the meeting.

Richardson gives numbers to put floor on the Amish prebuilt gazebo. It would increase the cost of the gazebo by \$2,000.00 to \$27,000.00. Includes beefing up the gazebo for snow load. She states they can also increase the height to 8feet.

Richardson raises the concern of having 5 designs to solicit residents input. The committee reiterates its commitment to have three to five designs to solicit residents input.;

1. The PA Country Lane Gazebo Company.
2. Amish Country Gazebo's
3. Vermont Natural Homes – on slab
4. Vermont Natural Homes – two steps

There is a brief discussion on funding raising for the cost of the gazebo. It was decided to have that discussion at future meetings. The Committee sets the next gazebo meeting for Wednesday, September 6, 2023 at 6:00pm.