



TOWN OF
NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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**PLANNING BOARD CIP SUBCOMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
SITE TOUR OF COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

**May 27, 2015
9:00AM**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Berger and Rob Prohl.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bill Dietrich (PB Subcommittee Chair), Michele Holton (PB Secretary) and John Tilley.

OTHER PRESENT: Tim Paradise (Planning Board).

Overview of the tour schedule provided as follows:

Tour begin at the 1941 Building (School District, formerly the old Middle School) site. After the tour of this building is complete, the tour will continue with the Police Department and Whipple Hall, located at the corner of Main Street and Seamans Road. All of these facilities will be visited in a time frame of 2-2 ½ hours.

1941 Building and Site

The tour of the 1941 building was provided by Michael doCurren, Director of Facilities for KRSD. It was noted that Mr. doCurren will be taking another position, and his replacement is Todd Fluery.

The building itself is a solid structure and could be rehabilitated for an unknown cost, dependent on its intended use. Our thought was to look at the site as much as the building since it is not clear what footprint might be discussed between the SAU and the New London Selectmen. There is a large amount of land in back of the building that could be used for parking and other outdoor purposes. The location of the site (center of town) is what makes it particularly attractive in the long term and that should be the Selectmen's focus if these negotiations take place.

Police Department and Whipple Hall

Our second tour was the Police Department and Whipple Hall. The tour was conducted by Chief Ed Anderson and began in the Dispatch area. The entry-way is usually flooded during heavy rains, creating an unattractive and unhealthy appearance. The dispatchers work in a confined area and are not able to take advantage of more advanced equipment which simply won't fit into the work space.

Even though renovations have been made in recent years to the Police headquarters, the Department and its functions are somewhat "chopped up" leading to storage problems and some safety concerns. A considerable amount of space in the building is used by the Recreation Dept. Increased participation in the Recreation Department programs in recent years have led to the need for more equipment and more space to store it.

Meanwhile storage requirements for the Police have increased which has led to a disorganized storage situation through no fault of their own. For example, tires must be stored in the Sally port and result in certain safety issues. The door from the Sally port to the prisoner booking area is not totally secure leading to additional safety issues.

Chief Anderson believes that the Police Department can remain in its present location if steps are taken to remedy space problems.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Berger, CIP Subcommittee Member
Town of New London