

**Annual Report of the Community Center Committee
West Newbury, Mass.**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen,

On behalf of the Community Center Committee (CCC), I am pleased to provide a report of our annual progress.

For FY17, the CCC received its request for \$6,000 from the town to continue the CCC's planning process, and in particular a needs assessment conducted by an outside and impartial party, to ensure the intergenerational community center will reflect the needs of the culture and town. With the leadership of a professional consultant, the CCC engaged members of the community for a two-part meeting to begin to gauge the broader community needs and lay the groundwork for a community needs assessment. The CCC expensed \$1,186.18 for the services provided by the professional consultant. The remaining \$4,813.82 would be carried over into the CCC's FY18 budget.

The committee inventoried the town's unused/underutilized properties with input from the Open Space Committee, the Open Space 2016 community survey, and the Parks & Recreation Committee. Next, the CCC identified the community center's building needs based on Council on Aging needs, which meets the needs of many groups' for meeting spaces. After gathering data and careful consideration, the CCC determined that repurposing The Annex at the Town Hall, 381 Main Street is the most viable *initial* option for a solution.

The public is welcome to attend the CCC's monthly meetings, posted in the Town Calendar.

Respectfully submitted,

Vanessa H. Graham
Chair