

**Minutes of a Special Meeting of The Common Council of The Town of Clarkdale  
Held on Tuesday, February 18, 2003, in the  
Men's Lounge of the Clarkdale Memorial Clubhouse, Clarkdale, Arizona.**

A Special meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Clarkdale was held on Tuesday, February 18, 2003 at 6:00 p.m. in the Men's Lounge of the Clark Memorial Clubhouse.

**Town Council:**

Mayor	Michael Bluff
Vice Mayor	Ellie Bauer
Councilmember	David Leibforth
	Rex Williams
	Tom Groom

**Staff:**

Town Manager	Gayle Mabery
Town Clerk	Joyce Driscoll
Admin. Assistant	Charlotte Hawken

**Heritage Conservancy Board:**

Chair	Pat Williams
Boardmember	Linda McDonough
	Jerry Wombacher

**Library Advisory Board:**

Boardmember	Mary Lu Estlick
	Pat Harris
	Jean Stevens
	John Stevenson

**Others in attendance:** None.

Mayor Bluff called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and noted that all members of the Council were present.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** - None.

Without objection the Council took the addendum first.

**PROCLAMATION - A proclamation designating February 21, 2003 as 'Clarkdale-Jerome School Day.'** Mayor Bluff read the proclamation. Councilmember Williams moved to adopt the proclamation, Councilmember Groom seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Without objection the Council discussed both the

following agenda items together.

**WORKSESSION - A worksession with the Heritage Conservancy Board regarding the Facilities.**

**WORKSESSION - A worksession with the Library Advisory Board regarding the Facilities.**

Without objection, the Council will discuss both items at once. Town Manager Mabery summarized that the Facilities Master Plan has been on the Council agenda a couple of times. She stated that she and Architect Radoccia met with individual Council members and it became apparent that the Council needed to make policy decisions regarding their long term vision about library and heritage issues in order to decide on the facilities plan. The discussion included the following issues:

1. This discussion might have been better if it occurred before the plan.
2. A bond issue was passed for the Town to purchase the Methodist Church as a library and it is an appropriate space for the library.
3. What is the meaning of the library in a community?
4. How do the board members perceive the library to be in the community.
5. Library is the heart of the town.
6. This library is not well used, the hours are short and it needs more volunteers.
7. How do the board members see the future of the library?
8. The men's Lounge is an ideal location and may attract more people and get more use with more advertising.
9. If town is going to have a library, how do we improve the use of it?
10. The library in the Men's Lounge would attract

more people and be easier to access, as the current space has 10 steps rising a total of 6 ½ feet, while the Men's Lounge has 4 steps going up a total of 2 feet.

11. With advertising people would come to see the new library.

12. The Men's Lounge as a library would rival a Dale Carnegie library and be a big draw.

13. Many residents don't know you can get videos and use computers at the library and how versatile it is.

14. A building belonging to the town can be used for any town purpose.

15. The Men's Lounge has a lot to offer, with its atmosphere, and necessary changes could be handled to preserve its historic charm. The library furnishings should fit the space and the current library space is better suited to meetings.

16. The critical feature that gives a library its character are its programs. Programs are what bring people in and are the key issue in making a library alive.

17. Books to purchase or borrow could be brought to other areas of the Town complex, or be the Clarkdale part of the Yavapai College, Verde campus library.

18. Computer services can all be hidden from view or be combined with the computers at the college library.

19. The college library has a different collection focus from the public library.

20. Having a community resource is a reason aside from the circulation to have the library.

21. Would more evening hours bring people into the library?

22. Advertising will not get a lot more people into the library. Those who are going to use it already do.

23. Moving the library may not increase usage.

24. Programs in the current library may bring in a few more people.

25. What will the weight of book shelves do to the cork floor of the Men's Lounge?

26. Only part of the Facilities Master Plan will be completed in the first phase.

27. A rough estimate of the construction budget for the first phase is \$444,000. The Town has \$416,000 and needs \$28,000 more.

28. The library board was asked to consider moving the library to the Men's Lounge. Half objected until they toured the Men's Lounge. Then everyone agreed it would be a good space for a library.

29. What is the proper use of the clubhouse? It is not utilized as much as it should be.

30. Library usage in the clubhouse would preserve the building.

31. Architect Radoccia thinks the Men's Lounge floor would support the weight of book shelves. Status of plan does not yet warrant checking it further.

32. In rethinking how we look at the library, it could more broadly serve residents in the college area.

33. If we're going to keep a library, to what extent and how can we improve it?

34. How would Council constituents feel if there was no library?

35. What about moving the court to other than the current library space.

36. The Council is responsible to everyone for spending the Town's money wisely.

37. Sixty percent of the library funding comes from the county, \$22,500 out of a total cost of \$36,000. The town's cost is about \$14,000 per year.

38. The library board has considered downsizing the library to fit in one third the space in the DMV building, and asked if they could look at what they

do in a different way?

39. Leave the library where it is and use the clubhouse for programs.

40. Could take some books out of the current library and have room for programs.

41. Everyone agrees the clubhouse is underutilized, but no plan has been presented to use it better.

42. The library and parks and rec could present community wide programs.

43. The college library has a distinctly different focus from a public library and they appear not to want to add to their collection.

44. The uses of the Clubhouse are a challenge: historic articles can be damaged with rentals and programs in the building and better lighting, heating, cooling and electrical are needed. It requires careful scheduling to be comfortable and to preserve artifacts.

45. The Verde Valley chamber groups are looking for facilities for programs and a large room for meetings.

46. If the library stays where it is, money could be used to fix the clubhouse to make it usable.

47. A 501-C3 non-profit organization could be developed geared toward preserving artifacts and history of the town. It would require a business plan and puts a group in position to apply for grants.

48. The DMV upstairs could be used as a council/court room.

49. The Council is questioning many aspects of the Facilities Master Plan, not just the library and Heritage Conservancy.

50. The Clubhouse is on the National Register of Historic Places.

51. The heritage board could contact the Clarkdale Foundation to see about restoring the gazebo.

52. Grant funding usually requires a ten year lease.

53. Would the heritage board consider space in the Clubhouse if it was restored.

5. The Clubhouse lacks security for the preservation of artifacts.

55. Partnering the library and heritage museum is a good way to access more grant opportunities.

**ADJOURNMENT** - With no further business before the Council, and without objection, Councilmember Bluff adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

**APPROVED:**

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Michael Bluff, Mayor

**SUBMITTED:**

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Charlotte Hawken, Admin. Assistant

**ATTESTED:**

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Joyce Driscoll, Town Clerk