

City of Cambridge

Meeting of CASPAR Special Committee Thursday, October 1, 1992 - 12:00 noon

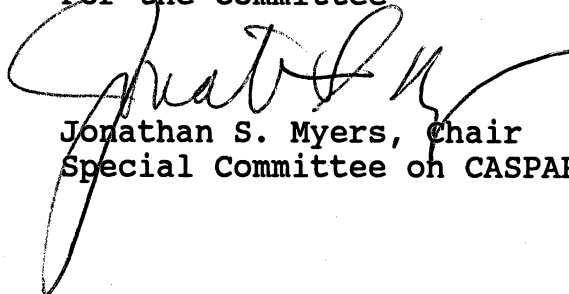
Present: Councillor Jonathan Myers, Chair: Cathy Hoffman, Chair, Ward 5 Democratic Committee; Carl Barron, President, Central Square Businessmen's Association; Rev. Williams: Chair, Central Square Clergy, Judge Lawrence J. Feloney: Past President of CASPAR, Mr. Ronald P. Suduiko, Assistant to the President, M.I.T., Anita Shipman, Council on Aging; Councillor Sheila T. Russell, Councillor Alice Wolf, Mr. Win Poor, Director, CASPAR, Inc.: Dr. Gary Stiller, Green Street Neighborhood Group Representative, Ms. Jill Herold, Assistant City Manager for Human Services, Deputy Superintendent Michael Giacoppo, Cambridge Police Department: Tony Ciccierello, Administrative Assistant to Mayor Capuano, City of Somerville: Ms. Catherine Donaher, Observer and Technical Assistant representing M.I.T.

1. Councillor Myers called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.
2. Ms. Jill Herold, distributed and summarized a chronology of the search for a permanent location for CASPAR. A summary of residential programs and a city map showing most drug and alcohol treatment services, halfway houses and shelters, homeless shelters, community psychiatric services.
3. Mr. Ron Suduiko, Assistant to the President of M.I.T. spoke briefly about M.I.T.'s search for locations. He agreed to provide the addresses of any M.I.T. had investigated for the next meeting.

Councillor Myers asked M.I.T. officials to put together a list of all the addresses that they pursued in 1990 for next weeks meeting, and also asked whether in 1990 the city efforts on a site location and M.I.T. efforts were combined? Ms. Donaher said that through this process, M.I.T was represented by the City and that M.I.T. carried out their own search for a site, but to no avail, and said that they left no stone unturned.

4. There was a presentation by Mr. Ron Suduiko, M.I.T. regarding the terms of the options held by M.I.T. for Green Street. The option expires December 31, 1992, and the owner has said that it is not inclined to extend at this time.
5. Next Meeting: **Thursday, October 8, 1992 12:00 noon.** It will be a tour of Central Square and the CASPAR facility.
6. There was no public testimony, although the public was present.
7. Meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

For the Committee



Jonathan S. Myers, Chair
Special Committee on CASPAR Siting.

City of Cambridge

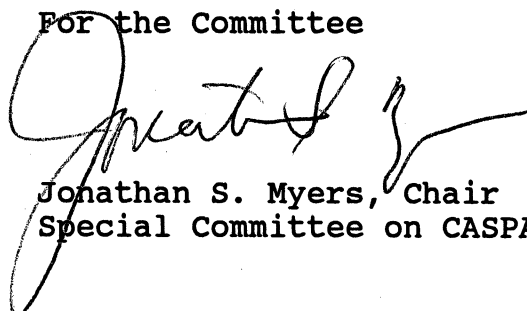
Meeting of CASPAR Special Committee Thursday, October 8, 1992

Present: Councillor Jonathan S. Myers: Chair, Councillor Sheila T. Russell, Win Poor, Director of CASPAR: Rev. Williams, representative for the Central Square Clergy: Mr. Gary Stiller, Representative for the Concerned Citizens of Green Street: Ms. Anita Shipman, Representative for the Council on Aging: Ms. Cathy Hoffman, Chair, Ward 5 Democratic Committee: Mr. Tony Ciccierello, Administrative Assistant to Mayor Capuano, City of Somerville: Mr. Greg Miller, representing Judge Feloney from CASPAR Board: Mr. Paul Parrano, Representative for Mr. Ron Suduiko, of M.I.T: Dottie Giacobbe, City Council staff: other persons present, Mr. Michael Picard of the M.I.T. Thistle Newspaper: Dr. Pak.

1. The Committee met at City Hall. Ms. Jackie Clarke, Coordinator of the Area Four Crime Task Force, spoke to the Committee to inform them that on Thursday, October 15, 1992 there will be an informational meeting at the Fletcher School regarding the CASPAR proposed location.
2. The Committee then proceeded through the Central Square area and to the corner of Green Street and Pleasant Street where they discussed the proposed site and toured the area behind the building, which is presently a parking lot. Committee members asked various questions regarding the entrance of CASPAR. Mr. Win Poor acknowledged that if this was to be the site, the back entrance of the parking lot on Pleasant Street would be closed permanently with a wall, and that the only entrance would be from Western Avenue. The entrance at Green Street would only be used as an emergency exit. The committee then proceeded through the square, with discussion regarding the facility and the patrons, where they would go after they left CASPAR, into the neighborhood, into Central Square again. The Committee continued down Massachusetts Avenue to the corner of Brookline Street, where they waited for the bus to pick them up to drive to the CASPAR facility on Albany Street.

3. The bus arrived at CASPAR, and Mr. Win Poor, Executive Director spoke about the facility and the history of it, as well as the statistics of the numbers of patrons they service. The facility was three full size trailers linked together in the form of a L shape, with a truck trailer on the premises for use of storage and supplies.
4. The Committee proceeded into the facility, and was shown the different areas, such as the Common Room, the Kitchen, the laundry facilities, which at night are transformed into sleeping areas. The third trailer was setup with beds, and there were several patrons sleeping. Some committee members talked to various patrons inside the facility, who were sitting in the common room. The group then left the facility, then outside they discussed and asked various questions.
5. The committee then proceeded to board the bus. Some discussion took place with members and Councillor Russell regarding alternative locations, since the Chair of the Committee designated Councillor Russell to look into alternative locations. The bus proceeded to the corner of Hamilton and Sidney Street, to an empty lot where this could be an alternative location. However, it was pointed out that it is a residential area lot. Another location, a building on Sidney Street, next to 179 Sidney Street, that was pointed out as a possible location. As the bus proceeded up Mass. Avenue, another possible site, the Back Bay Motors building was not used. Councillor Russell agreed to inquire into the various sites that were discussed.
6. The bus arrived back at City Hall at 1:45 p.m.
7. Councillor Myers spoke briefly to the committee members and thanked them for coming. He also reminded them of the next scheduled meeting Thursday, October 15, 1992 at noon in City Hall in the Council Chambers.

For the Committee



Jonathan S. Myers, Chair
Special Committee on CASPAR Siting

City of Cambridge

Meeting of CASPAR Special Committee Thursday, October 15, 1992 - 12:00 noon

Present: Councillor Jonathan S. Myers, Chair; Rev. Willard Williams, Chair, Central Square Clergy; Win Poor, Exec. Director of CASPAR; Judge Lawrence Feloney; Tony Ciccariello, Administrative Assistant to Mayor Capuano of Somerville; Ms. Anita Shipman, Cambridge Council on Aging; Mike Giacoppo, Deputy Superintendent of Cambridge Police Department; Mr. Gary Stiller, Representative for the Green Street Concerned Residents; Councillor Alice K. Wolf, Councillor Sheila T. Russell; Ms. Jill Herold, Assistant City Manager for Human Services; Jackie Clarke, Coordinator, Area 4 Crime Task Force; Mr. Ron Suduiko, Assistant to the President of Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Mr. David Levine, Central Square Florist sitting in for Mr. Carl Barron, President of the Central Square Businessmen's Association; Ms. Frances Wirta, Member of Ward 4 Democratic Committee; and Mr. Scott Levitan, of the Mid-Cambridge Neighborhood Association.

1. Councillor Jonathan S. Myers opened the meeting at 12:10 p.m.
2. Councillor Myers reported the request of the Ward 4 Democratic Committee and the Mid-Cambridge Neighborhood Association the request for membership on this committee. The Committee members discussed the request, and unanimously agreed to accept a representative from each group as members of the Committee.
3. Councillor Myers requested that Mr. Ron Suduiko, Assistant to the President of M.I.T. explain the terms and lease of the real estate transaction regarding 380 Green Street.

Mr. Suduiko stated that the option agreement for 380 Green Street ends December 31, 1992. The owner of the site does not want to extend agreement with M.I.T. The property sale price \$1,000.000, and with the rehabilitation total cost could be \$2,000.000.

Mr. Suduiko described the process that resulted in selection of the Green Street site.

- A. In selection of the building, the following elements were considered:

Central Square - critical element
Construction of the building itself and building size.
Security of area.

- B. The next step that Mr. Ron Suduiko took was to meet with the Cambridge City Manager to see if this site was feasible.
- C. M.I.T. officials presented and discussed proposal with the CASPAR Board.

Councillor Myers asked Mr. Suduiko, if M.I.T.'s offer would still hold if the community identified another site.

Mr. Suduiko stated that this special committee was very important. At this time however Green Street is the proposed site that M.I.T. is committed to.

Jackie Clarke asked Mr. Suduiko, what would happen if the City denied the exchange of streets, would the CASPAR site be available?

Mr. Suduiko discussed the siting of the streets, and briefly described the particular streets.

4. Councillor Myers asked for the information which M.I.T. had agreed to supply as to the addresses of the other sites it had looked at. Mr. Suduiko gave the information to the committee.
5. Councillor Russell presented a list of 10 alternative sites for the committee's review.

There was general discussion regarding these sites. Councillor Wolf stated that there are concerns with every site and suggested another meeting with CASPAR to draw up some criteria.

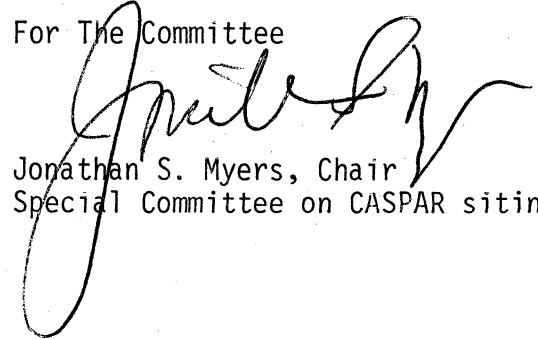
Councillor Russell asked if CASPAR had spoken to the Salvation army, as to building a second floor to that building. Mr. Poor of CASPAR said that they approached the Salvation Army years ago, but there has not been a recent discussion on this issue. Councillor Russell said she would welcome the assistance of any interested committee members in reviewing potential sites.

6. Councillor Wolf discussed the process for consideration of the portion of M.I.T.'s proposal relative to disposition of the streets. Under the City Ordinance governing the disposition of the streets. Under the city ordinance governing the disposition of the streets.

Under the city ordinance governing the disposition of land, the first step is for the City Manager to hold a public hearing and gather various categories of information. Then the Planning Board holds a hearing. After that the issue comes before the City Council.

7. Councillor Myers moved to the agenda items of submitted assessments of impacts, criteria. Ms. Jill Herold distributed a draft entitled "Elements of Impact Analysis on Relocation of Casper Emergency Service Center (a copy is attached.)"
8. Councillor Wolf requested additional information about the Lawrence and Worcester Shelter.
9. Councillor Russell requested a report from the Community Development Department or whether the present zoning would permit the shelter on Green Street.
10. Meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

For The Committee


Jonathan S. Myers, Chair
Special Committee on CASPAR siting

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report from Councillor Jonathan S. Myers, chair, Special Committee on CASPAR, transmitting hearings held on October 1, 1992, October 8, 1992 and October 15, 1992 regarding a search for a permanent location for CASPAR.

In City Council,

November 2, 1992

*Report accepted
Placed on file*