

City of Cambridge

The Elder Affairs Committee conducted a public hearing on Wednesday, December 16, 1992 beginning at 11:10 a.m. in the Ackermann Room, City Hall.

Councillor Sheila T. Russell, Chair of the above referenced Committee, convened the hearing and stated that the purpose of this date's proceedings was to receive an update on the status of the City-Wide Senior Center. Present at the hearing were: Councillor Alice K. Wolf and Deputy City Clerk John E. Flynn.

To begin the proceedings, Councillor Russell recognized Deputy City Manager Richard C. Rossi for a status report on the Senior Center.

Mr. Rossi announced to those assembled that following a series of meetings, the City Manager has concluded that housing of the Election Commission and Veteran Services at the Center was not feasible and therefore they would not be located at that site. The Deputy City Manager further stated that the column-free space and roof deck would be included in the final renovation space plans. He also stated that some space which is below ground level (closest to Massachusetts Avenue) would be dedicated archive space for use by various city departments. The rationale for this use of space was due to ceiling height and low periods of vibrations due to the Red Line.

Applause greeted the conclusion of Mr. Rossi's presentation to the Committee by those assembled.

Mr. Kenneth Holmes, Chair of the Council on Aging (COA), thanked the City Manager on behalf of the Seniors of Cambridge and that the COA was very much appreciative of his decision.

Councillor Russell also applauded the City Manager's decision.

Ms. Donna Johnson, Elderly Program Manager, also applauded the City Manager's decision and added that the Seniors are following closely the extension process with regards to the City Manager's contract.

Ms. Kathie Filsinger, Executive Director, COA, thanked the City Manager for his decision and stated that it was overwhelming.

Councillor Wolf stated that if the project is ready to proceed forward that it be included on a funding request list to President-Elect Clinton in the event that the new president introduces an economic stimulus package in the early days of the new administration.

Mr. Rossi in response stated that the architect is ready to proceed full speed on this project.

Councillor Russell called the decision good news and stated to those assembled that patience paid off.

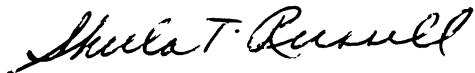
Mr. Homes stated to Councillor Russell, Councillor Wolf and others how grateful he was for their leadership on this issue.

Councillor Wolf stated to those assembled how appreciative she was for their work and further stated that they would make this center work.

Councillor Russell concluded the hearing by thanking all who participated in this process.

The hearing was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

For the Committee,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sheila T. Russell".

Councillor Sheila T. Russell
Chair

COMMITTEE REPORTS

3.

S-29

Elder Committee relative to an update
on the Senior Center.

In City Council,

January 11, 1993

Report accepted

Placed on file