

Proposed Uses for Memorial School Property

Memorial School Ad Hoc Committee: Christopher Walton, Bruce Hancock, Peter Lowell, Matt Markot, Anne Overman, Amy Stone, Gary Colello (Bridgton Recreation Dept. Director), Victoria Hill (Bridgton Community Development Dept. Director)

Background

The mission of this committee is to develop three potential uses of the Memorial School property which are to be taken to the voters for a non-binding vote.

We reviewed information from the Open Space Plan, a community charrette on what residents would like to see in Bridgton, and previous work from the Bridgton Economic Development Corporation.

To consider for all proposed uses

The use must be cultural, educational, or recreational and cannot be commercial.

The building and property will need to be inspected/assessed.

Skate park will need to be moved if it is not part of the planned use.

Whatever use is selected will require management and overhead.

To consider (cont.)

Open space is consistently important to community members.

We have looked at other existing models for each proposed use.

Whatever use is selected will require parking.

Consider publicly accessible shower and bathroom facilities.

Health & Wellness Center/Community Services Hub

Bridgton Community Center should be considered as the primary tenant/administrator

Spaces for meetings

Health and wellness, classes and resources

Multi-generational service strategies

State and county agencies lease space for one-stop services

Community Development Hub

Workforce development

Artisan space

Nonprofit offices

Shared office management

Business start-up resources (SCORE,
SBA)

Partnership opportunities with
nonprofits, foundations, and agencies

Open Space and Outdoor Events

Outside performance space

Integrated walkways connecting
to other outdoor areas

Trail systems

Outdoor gathering spaces,
covered tables, picnic areas

Parking for downtown events

Opportunities

Invest in community resources

Continue to develop robust downtown

Increase walkable community services

Connect recreation trails and provide economic opportunities around their use