

**Library Feasibility Needs Assessment Committee
(LFNAC)
May 15, 2007
Shutesbury Town Hall/Wendell Library/Warwick Library
Meeting Minutes**

Present: Dale Houle, Karen Traub, Lori Touminen, Jane Urban (Library Trustee)

The group assembled at Shutesbury Town Hall and proceeded to the newly built Wendell Free Library where we were given a tour by Rosie Heidcamp, Library Director.

Features noted:

- *Old Wendell Library approx 1100 square feet/ new 4200sq ft Approx 800 residents
- *Welcoming Front porch with rockers, columns (as the previous building on the site had)
- *hardipland and cedar siding, entry with meeting room and bathroom that may be opened when library is not,
- *bookdrop with bookshelves above it for ongoing booksale.
- *The building has solar collector installed by Jeff Clearwater of Shutesbury whom Rosie highly recommends and was built with energystar rating, birch floor made with local trees, produced by Woodlands Cooperative (wood had a lot of character and many knots).
- *Natural and low toxicity products were used where possible eg: low VOC paint
- *Book shelves were castoffs that volunteers delivered and will assemble.
- *Wendell is doing several building projects at one time including new Town offices.
- *Fundraising \$77,000 so far, Donations of materials include the dedication of the meeting room to Mrs. Herrick from a former student and of the circulation desk from the sister of a librarian and the skylights from the Friends of the Library. (Note: Friends money was used for special touches that enhance the library's appeal to residents rather than for the building itself)

The committee then proceeded to the Warwick Library where Library Director Nancy Hickler gave us a tour and talked about the process of building an addition onto a 19th century Baptist Church which had been the Town's Library in 1917 with a donation of \$5000.

Of Note:

- Much of the woodwork was a partial donation by a local craftsman.
- The project was completed in 1996 for \$200,00 and (doubled or tripled?) the size of the existing library.
- The project had the support of the Town of Warwick and went very smoothly from start to finish
- Nancy recommends highly the contractor and architect she worked with
- She mentioned that a building need not be registered as a historic building in order to require adherence to historic building regulations.
- Shelving and furniture is moveable to create space for meetings and programs.