

Bow Community Building
Status Report #3
(Revised)
January 24, 2018

Program Locations

While change can be difficult, there are new and exciting opportunities to collaborate with the School, Library and community partners to continue to offer high quality and affordable recreation programs. While many recreation programs are already taking place at the Town's schools, discussions have begun with school officials to see how many more programs would be able to be offered at the schools.

The Library has offered to provide office space for the Recreation Department. This could prove to be very convenient for residents and provide them with the chance to sign up for recreation programs and, at the same time, enjoy the wide range of services offered at the Library. Some recreation programs, such as yoga, could also be offered at the Library. We are hoping to go the Library Trustees soon in order to get final approval of these options.

There have been a number of our community partners such as Fieldhouse Sports, Bow Mills Methodist Church and the Bow Youth Center who are willing to house recreation programs. This is a great way to maximize the resources available to the Town to provide new and improved programs, in addition to the wonderful existing programs.

Program Numbers

- Number of programs currently offered by the Bow Parks and Recreation Department- **45**
- Number of these programs taking place at the Community Building - **18**

Of these 18 programs, 8 are able to be relocated and we are still working on finalizing the details on other locations and determining if these programs will work in those locations.

- Number of programs currently offered in other locations - **27**

These locations include: Bow Elementary, School, Bow Memorial School, Bow High School, Hanson Memorial Recreation Area, Sargent Park, Town Gazebo, Town Pond, Municipal Building, Town trails, Fieldhouse Sports (Bow), Pat's Peak (Henniker) and the USA Ninja Challenge Center (Manchester).

Storage at Community Building

In October, The Board of Selectmen asked Town Manager David Stack to develop a policy that would continue to allow community groups to store items at the community building, as well the process for other organizations requesting storage space. As part of the policy development process, Fire Chief Mitch Harrington was asked to review life safety codes and what type of storage could be allowed.

Chief Harrington met with the Board on 10/24/17 to review his findings. He provided a summary of concerns based upon a recent site walk and his review of the all reports from Life Safety Engineer Bob Cummings and the State Fire Marshal. There was an extensive number of items stored in the mezzanine and throughout the building by Parks and Recreation and Town organizations. Chief Harrington recommended that the Board remove as much storage from the building as possible in order to lower the fire and safety risk of having items stored in an assembly area. The Board of Selectmen voted to take the following actions

1. Remove Recreation Department storage out of the mezzanine area and develop a plan to get rid of all the extra storage owned by the Town;
2. To notify the Bow Men's Club, Boy Scouts and Young at Heart Club that their stored items are at risk and must be relocated; and let them know that they can either move their items out of the building or come to the selectmen with a proposal. These groups would have 60 days to move their storage out of the building, or come to the Selectmen with a plan within 30 days;
3. To not accept any additional materials from groups for storage; and
4. To have the Fire Chief research the code compliance of having fireproof storage containers contained in the bay areas

To date, all of Parks and Recreation supplies and equipment have been moved out of the mezzanine area and into a storage container located outside of the building. The Boy Scouts have begun to remove their equipment and gear, the Cub Scouts are looking through their gear and supplies to determine what needs to be kept and find storage for what they keep. The Men's Club is still seeking alternatives.

Cost of asbestos removal and demolition of Community Building

The Board of Selectmen has received a quote of \$106,700 from Peniel Environmental, Milford, NH, to remove asbestos, demolish and haul away the building and remove the concrete slab.