



Community Conversation Summary

The Future of the Thompson Community Center Complex

Union, Maine



October 26, 2019

Hosted by

The Committee for the Future of the Thompson Community Center
Complex

Facilitated by Jane Lafleur, JB Lafleur Consultants, Camden, Maine

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents and summarizes the results of a public Community Conversation and an on-line survey in the Town of Union Maine regarding the current uses, challenges and possible future uses and management structure for the Thompson Community Center. The results show:

Current and Future Uses

- 1) People in Union see great value in the community services and businesses that are available and offered at the Thompson Community Center. Most people believe they should continue and expand. People recognize it as an asset, centrally located, historic and community paid for and owned.
- 2) Participants also see the potential for additional commercial and civic uses to enhance the center and the community life in Union and to make it more financially sustainable.
- 3) Numerous ideas were offered for future uses, suggesting an interest and/or a need for these services, businesses and social gathering spaces, as well as recognizing the need for senior housing in Union.

Challenges

- 1) Participants understand the challenges with the older buildings and systems, the costs to maintain these facilities, and the need for improvements, including fire and safety improvements.
- 2) Most participants want to find a solution to preserve this complex and to continue to offer these services, businesses and community activities.

Management and Ownership

- 1) Participants link the current ownership and management structure to the current challenges.
- 2) Participants suggested various solutions and options that should be entertained by the community leaders and the TCC Board including
 - a. restructuring and renegotiating the lease arrangements so that improvements could be made through grants and loans;
 - b. providing community financial support through town funding, line item allocations and capital improvements;
 - c. changing the management from a separate non-profit board to a town committee;
 - d. modifying the non-profit board to allow greater oversight and management by the community; and/or
 - e. establishing a town committee to work with the non-profit TCC board.

It is recommended that the town elected and professional leaders work closely with the TCC Board to develop a plan to address these concerns and present that plan to the public in a future open meeting.

Background

The Committee for the Future of the Thompson Community Center Complex retained the services of Jane Lafleur of JB Lafleur Consultants of Camden, Maine to facilitate a Community Conversation with Union community members. The *Goal of this Community Meeting* was to find out what the community wants for the future of the Thompson Community Center Buildings.

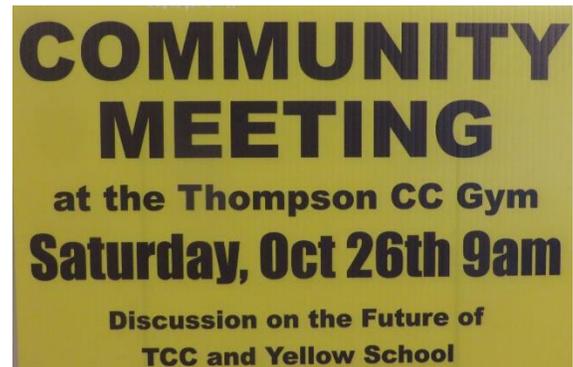
By the end of the 2-hour public meeting, it was expected that the community would have a clear indication of what the majority of Union residents *in the meeting room* want for the future of the Thompson Community Center. It is recognized that most public gatherings and discussions do not represent the majority of *all* voters, but rather show the will of those attending. Quite often, however, if strong efforts are made to solicit the participation from a wide range of the community, representing interests, ages, genders, and persuasions, the will of the group is indeed a good representative sample of the community itself. That conclusion is reached after further discussions and community meetings.

Public Outreach

The Committee used many methods to reach out to the Union community.

These methods included:

- bright yellow signs around town installed up to two weeks before the event
- press releases to local newspapers
- social media posts on Facebook
- a community wide on-line survey
- an email list and postings
- personal invitations.



Community Survey

An on-line survey was developed by the committee with guidance from Jane Lafleur, to offer another avenue for public input into critical questions facing the Thompson Community Center. Those survey results will be shown within this report.

Public Community Conversation

On Saturday, October 26, almost 100 people gathered in the gymnasium at the Thompson Community Center. Prior to the 9 am start time, the Community Center staff and Board offered a guided tour of the facility to interested individuals. A second tour was offered during a break.

The agenda included a presentation on the history as well as facts about the Thompson Community Center, an opportunity to ask questions and present missing information, small group work, report out from each of the small table groups, electronic key pad polling on several options that were suggested during the mall group work, and a wrap up.

**Union Community Conversation
The Thompson Community Center**

Saturday, October 26, 2019

9 am to 11 am

(TCC Tour at 8 am and refreshments at 8:45 am)

- I. Welcome and Introductions (5 minutes)
- II. Presentation on the Thompson Community Center (15 minutes)
- III. Small table discussions on: (30 minutes)
 - a. What do you like about the Thompson Community Center?
 - b. What ideas do you have for the future?
 - c. Prioritize the top ideas
- IV. Report out by Table Group (15 minutes)
- V. Short Break (10 minutes)
- VI. Key Pad polling on Ideas (30 minutes)
- VII. Next Steps (5 minutes)
- VIII. Adjourn

Thank you for joining this discussion about the future of the Thompson Community Center.

History of the Thompson Community Center

The following information was presented verbally and projected on slides during the session. Each person also received a two-sided handout containing the following background information and data:

The Thompson Community Center (TCC) consists of two connected buildings – the Union School (the old yellow school) and the Thompson Memorial Building - and has played an important role in Union’s history, serving as a school, town offices and municipal meeting space, and community center.



Union School



Thompson Memorial Building

History of the Thompson Community Center buildings

- The Union School was built in 1932 and housed all grades, from elementary to high school. The Women’s Community Club of Union raised \$16,857, the town contributed \$15,000, and the state \$1000, toward the total construction cost of \$32,857.
- The Thompson Memorial Building, the brick addition, was built in 1951, after Francis Thompson (heir to the Moxie Soft Drink Company) left money to the Town of Union to be used for building a town hall and community center as a memorial to his parents, Augustin and Sarah Thompson. With a growing student population, the school expanded into the Thompson Memorial Building soon after its completion.
- After Union became part of the newly-formed MSAD40, the high school students moved into the Medomak Valley High School in 1969. Eighteen years later, in 1987, the K-8 students relocated to a new elementary/middle school. Shortly afterward, the old buildings reverted to the town for its use.
- The Thompson Community Center Association (TCCA) was formed as a nonprofit organization. In 1989, they leased the buildings from the town to create a community center. A variety of activities, along with rental opportunities, were created to provide self-sufficiency for the center.

Terms of the TCCA Lease with the Town of Union

- Lease signed on November 2, 1989, with a term of 99 years and rent of \$1 per year.
- Use of the buildings: for civic, recreational, educational, and/or charitable purposes.

- The TCCA is responsible for all utilities, insurances, inside and outside repairs, and maintenance.
- The TCCA may sublet space to derive income to fund its activities.
- All improvements are assets of the Town of Union, not the TCCA.

The TCC buildings feature: 30,853 sq. feet of floor space, a gymnasium, a stage, kitchen, and 24* rooms.

Thompson Community Center Staff

Employees: Executive Director, Maintenance worker

Volunteers*: Board of Directors - 3, Thrift shop - 15, Flea markets - 13, Free Community

Thanksgiving Dinner – 60

Visits and Use

An estimated 3000* people visit/use the TCC facilities each month for the following:

Businesses

- Back to My Roots Hair Salon
- Lil Dragonfly Journey Child Care
- Bliss Yoga & Healing Arts
- TCC Thrift Store
- Chamber of Commerce meeting room/office
- Office and storage space is available for rent

Activities/Recreation

- Bridge
- Line Dancing
- Senior Fitness and Indoor Walking
- Youth Sports Practices
- Monthly Flea markets
- Craft Fairs
- Union Schoolroom Museum
- Adult and Children’s Craft Activities
- Rock Coast Rollers practices
- Gymnasium and party room are available for rent

Community Service

- Come Spring Food Pantry
- American Red Cross blood drives
- Lifeline Screening
- Free Community Thanksgiving Dinner
- Girl Scout Cookie Distribution
- Youth football & baseball equipment handouts
- Hosting fundraisers for families in need
- Boy Scouts meeting room

Recent Improvements made to the buildings (totaling nearly \$100,000*)

- Elevator repairs
- Updated lighting in the gymnasium (LED retrofit)
- Sprinkler systems - phases 1 & 2 complete, with phase 3 being done now
- Thrift Shop remodel
- Asbestos remediation in the old basement

Independent Professional Evaluations

- A 2018 financial audit of the TCCA's records verified the accuracy of the organization's 2013-2017 records and financial status.
- TCC Capital Needs Assessment Report - 2018 (by Landmark Corporation of Rockport, ME)
 - TCC buildings are structurally safe, but need some repairs and upgrades.
 - Estimated total capital needs over the next 20 years: \$1.0 M – 1.4 M (in 2018 \$)

Total depends on new heating system choice: steam boiler @ \$125,000, or hot water system @ \$475,000

The Challenges

- The TCCA receives no financial support from the town of Union. Voter approval would be required for any taxpayer money to be spent on the TCC buildings.
- It is self-supporting, covering operating expenses and repairs with income from the thrift shop, rentals, flea markets, snack bar, donations, and community activities.
- The recommended building repairs and upgrades that are described in the "TCC Capital Needs Assessment Report" would require additional funds to be raised beyond the TCCA's current income levels.
- One of the TCCA's constraints in raising money for major repairs is that the town owns the buildings, as well as all improvements made to them. As such, the TCCA has no collateral for securing financing. This has made it difficult to obtain grants or loans for building repairs.

**Information provided by TCC Executive Director*

End of Handout



Bliss Yoga Studio



Lil Dragonfly Journeys
 *Child Care*



Come Spring Food Pantry (left) and Thrift Shop (right)



Meeting Room (left) and TCC Gym (right)



School House Museum (left) and Chamber of Commerce Meeting Room (right)



Union School (left) and Thompson Memorial Building (right)

Small Group Discussions

The participants sat at round tables to enhance face-to-face discussion, exchange and mutual listening. At least 8 people sat at each table, some tables hosting 10 or more participants. Each table group was asked to address the following questions:

- 1) What do you like most about the Thompson Community Center?
- 2) What ideas do you have for the future? This was clarified to include “possible future uses” as well as “management, structural or administrative suggestions”.

Each table group was also asked to come to consensus on the top three ideas for their table for each question in order to facilitate the report out to the larger group. *Note: Table 3 was empty.*

		Table 1	Table 2	Table 4	Table 5	Table 6	Table 7	Table 8	Table 9	Table 10	Table 11	TOTALS
LIKES												
Location	Centrally located for food pantry/thrift shop, symbolic of community, Convenient location, close by, good potential	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	10
	Town owned, community central point, a “hub” of activities	*	*			*		*	*	*	*	7
Historic Asset	It’s an historic structure, a town icon, focus of community		*	*			*	*	*	*	*	7
	An asset to the town; town should be proud of it		*						*	*		3
Owned by Town	Town owned					*				*		5
	It is paid for; donated to town		*			*				*		
Community Space	It’s an existing structure with available space		*								*	2
	Builds community - a place to gather	*						*		*	*	4
	Potential for community cohesion, promise, opportunity			*			*		*	*		4

		Table 1	Table 2	Table 4	Table 5	Table 6	Table 7	Table 8	Table 9	Table 10	Table 11	TOTALS
Multiple Uses and Activities valuable to Townspeople	A place to walk for the elderly, thrift shop for everyone, Thanksgiving dinner, volunteers from many communities, child care, girl scouts	*				*				*	*	4
	Charitable functions, fundraisers	*									*	2
	Wealth of activities-benefit suppers, events, Local activities, interesting activities, useful					*	*	*	*			4
	Large meeting space			*							*	2
	Potential for senior activities			*								2
	Natural, all cultures need a community center. Would cost more to build a new (another) center, find land not central to town.								*			1
	Can't replace, should not be given to a single purpose such as elderly housing								*			1
Highlighted Valuable Uses	Flea markets					*						1
	Food pantry					*		*		*	*	4
	Child care					*						1
	Thrift shop, excellent, reasonable prices, clothing donated to those in need									*	*	2
	Chamber of commerce meeting room					*						1
	Space and potential for all ages						*		*			2
	Yoga and other classes							*				1
	Small business opportunities							*				1
	Attracts people to Union								*			1

		Table 1	Table 2	Table 4	Table 5	Table 6	Table 7	Table 8	Table 9	Table 10	Table 11	TOTALS
	A place to exercise in winter									*	*	2
	Girl scouts-location for cookie distribution and Girl Scouts put on yard sale for TCC										*	1
	Museum of school room										*	1
FUTURE OPORTUNITIES												
Uses	More town support, more activities here, continued expansion of programs	*		*	*						*	4
	Continue and expand current opportunities/ activities					*		*				2
	Stay as is, a business non-profit, a social center, business incubator				*						*	2
Educational	Satellite classes for U Maine	*									*	2
	Classes for adult ed and night school/tutoring/ career center/UMA, etc.	*			*						*	3
	Community forums	*										1
	Resource center for youth, families, elderly for heat assistance, unemployed, etc.										*	1
	Before and after school programs						*				*	2

		Table 1	Table 2	Table 4	Table 5	Table 6	Table 7	Table 8	Table 9	Table 10	Table 11	TOTALS
Housing	Elderly housing	*	*			*		*		*		5
	Senior and/or affordable housing by outside entity, Penquis proposal							*		*		2
	Elderly and low-income housing, in combination with community services				*							1
	Elderly housing in yellow side, 35 units to make money, low income, not elderly, no sidewalks, Penquis is in financial trouble								*			1
	Elderly housing by a non-profit that would restore and maintain the building; mixed use									*		1
The Arts	Community Theater	*										1
	Family movie night (fund-raiser)			*			*					2
	Arts program						*					1
	Performances, concerts, dances	*		*		*	*				*	5
Business Uses	More full-time rentals/ professional office space				*					*		2
	Indoor market for crafts and food, winter market		*	*								2
	Satellite pharmacy, barber shop etc., "divided space"		*			*						2
	Common workspace with start-up incubator		*	*								2
	Pop-up business events				*							1
	Increase fitness options					*					*	2

		Table 1	Table 2	Table 4	Table 5	Table 6	Table 7	Table 8	Table 9	Table 10	Table 11	TOTALS
	Maker space, craft space, shop and studio space	*		*								2
	Commercial kitchen, shared use	*		*							*	3
	Think outside the box for businesses & opportunities										*	1
Agricultural Uses	CSA			*								1
	Community gardens						*					1
Community Space	Expand senior activities/ meeting spaces			*								1
	Large meeting space			*								1
	Accessibility			*								1
	Adult day-care (respite site)						*					1
	Walking trail						*					1
	Sumer programming for all ages						*					1
	Moms and Tots programs										*	1
	Programs should be self-supporting	*										1
	Activities for all citizens							*				1
Sports	Swimming pool under yellow building								*			1
	Multi-use								*		*	2
	No sports complex							*				1

		Table 1	Table 2	Table 4	Table 5	Table 6	Table 7	Table 8	Table 9	Table 10	Table 11	TOTALS	
Ownership Structure	Need a foundation, community supported	*										1	
	Modify/reneegotiate the lease, update to current uses					*			*			2	
	Keep building as a community center						*					1	
	Town support is critical; TCC board should collaborate with town committees/recreation						*					1	
	Break the lease, change to town managed/owned through separate board or committee				*					*		2	
	Take ownership for responsibility of building						*			*		2	
	Renegotiate lease, purchase building and land						*					1	
	Explore possibility to sell all buildings to TCC for nominal fee, ownership, if TCC dissolves, reverts ownership back to town; allow TCC to get grants/loans										*		1
	Revaluation of referendum, town start providing funds for TCC building										*		1
	If ownership remains with town, allow TCC to use as collateral to maintain/ maintenance										*		1
	Explore selling or buying building outright							*		*			2
Restructure the board									*			1	

		Table 1	Table 2	Table 4	Table 5	Table 6	Table 7	Table 8	Table 9	Table 10	Table 11	TOTALS
Funding Ideas	Grant writing; work with town official to apply	*					*					2
	Investment in the buildings; capital campaign and major fundraising	*			*		*					3
	Line budget with accountability/annual town vote to appropriate funds to TCCA as library gets				*		*		*			3
	Change the way capital improvements are made				*						*	2
	Need a benefactor, find one.							*				1
	Charging rates for tables at craft fairs								*			1
Marketing and Information	Develop a marketing board to draw businesses to the area/building; better marketing and promotions of rental spaces		*		*							2
	Wider dissemination of information			*			*					2
	Expand use/ increase public awareness/better communication about activities					*		*				2
	Why hasn't it reached potential? Public relations word about what goes on here, non-profit-are we or aren't we?						*					1
	Improved signage							*				1
	Rename it Thompson Community and Event Center					*						1

		Table 1	Table 2	Table 4	Table 5	Table 6	Table 7	Table 8	Table 9	Table 10	Table 11	TOTALS
Site and Building Issues	Drainage/ infrastructure						*					1
	Update on screen and acoustics, air quality						*					1
	Define the land and building assets and liabilities							*				1
	Raze building, create a park							*				1
	Assessment by outside professional of community needs and wants, young family needs							*				1
	Repair, don't tear down or replace			*								1



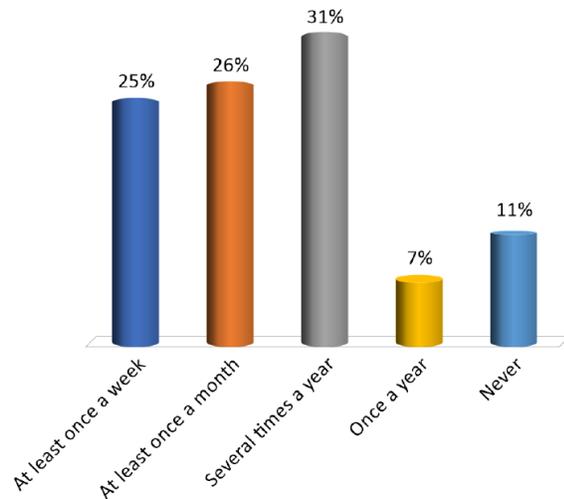


Key Pad Polling Results

Electronic hand held keypad polling devices were passed out to every Union voter to answer several questions, summarizing the community input received during the Community Conversation. The results are shown below.

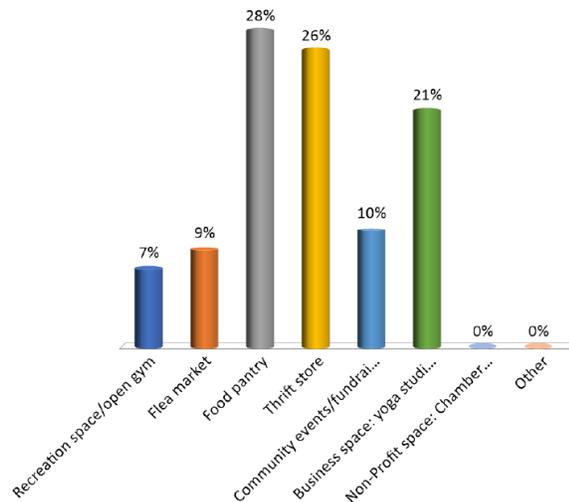
How often do you or your family members use the TCC facilities?

1. At least once a week
2. At least once a month
3. Several times a year
4. Once a year
5. Never



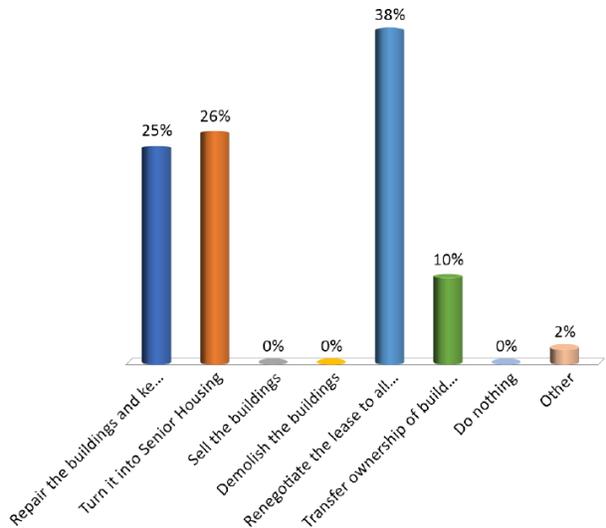
Which of the following is the most valuable current use at the TCC facilities?

1. Recreation space/open gym
2. Flea market
3. Food pantry
4. Thrift store
5. Community events/fundraisers
6. Business space: yoga studio, childcare center, hair salon, etc.
7. Non-Profit space: Chamber of Commerce, etc.
8. Other



Which idea do you like best for the future of the Thompson Community Center?

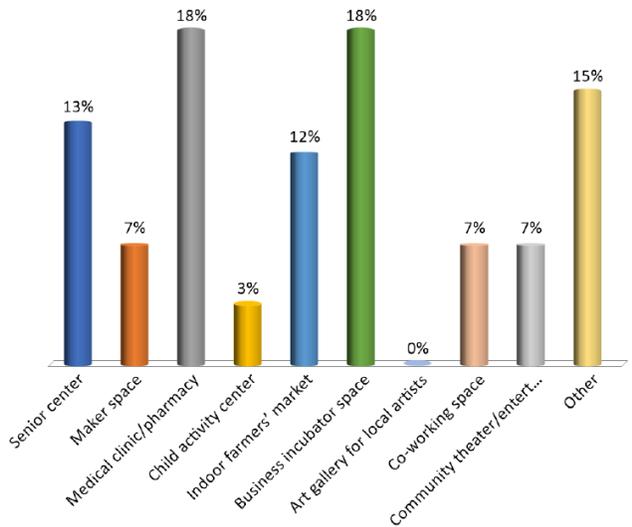
1. Repair the buildings and keep the community center
2. Turn it into Senior Housing
3. Sell the buildings
4. Demolish the buildings
5. Renegotiate the lease to allow center to qualify for grants and loans
6. Transfer ownership of building to TCC
7. Do nothing
8. Other



Several people noted that they wanted to clarify the question above. Option #2 was clarified to be “senior housing, not necessarily low-income housing”.

What idea for future additional uses/activities would you most like to see?

1. Senior center
2. Maker space
3. Medical clinic/pharmacy
4. Child activity center
5. Indoor farmers’ market
6. Business incubator space
7. Art gallery for local artists
8. Co-working space
9. Community theater/entertainment space
10. Other

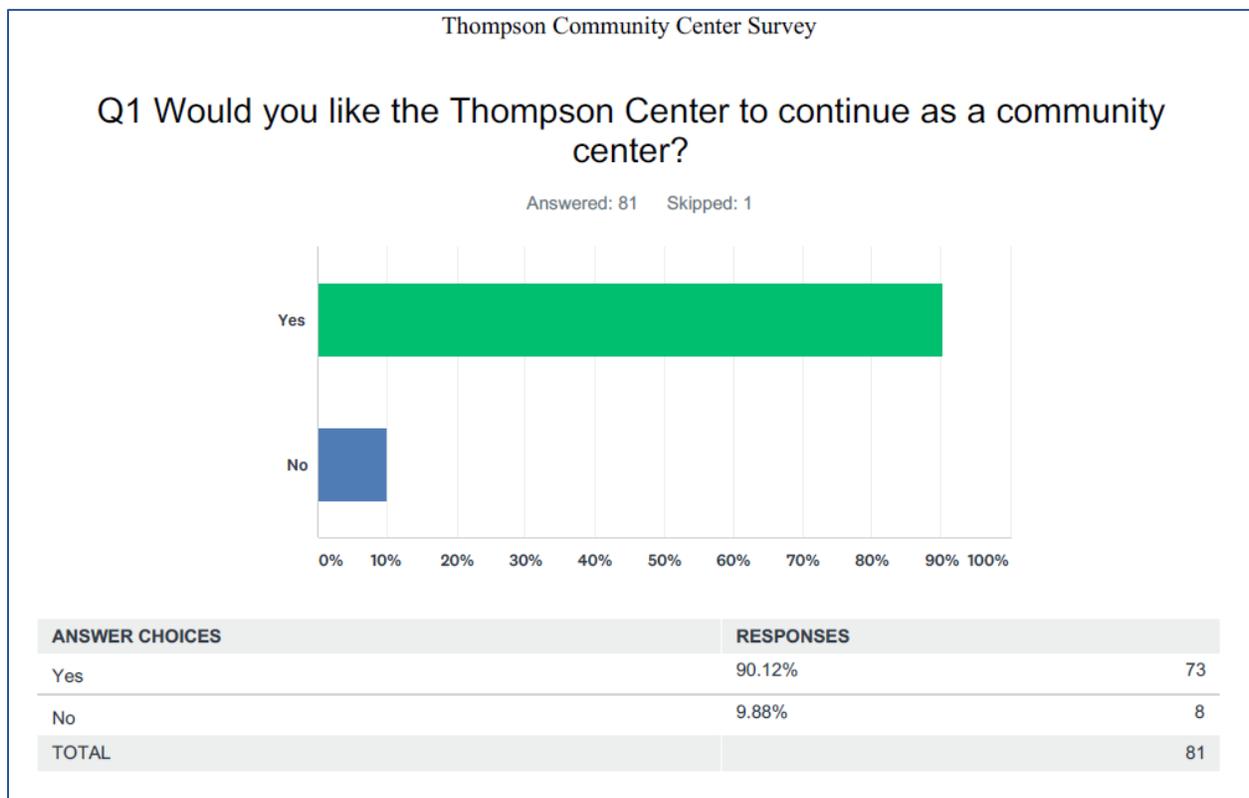


After the vote, the facilitator asked what “other” meant to those voting “other” and the answer was “All of the above”.

On-line Survey Results

From August 29, 2019 through October 28, 2019, JB Lafleur Consultants monitored a Union Community Survey developed in consultation with the Committee. In addition to the on-line version, paper copies were available and those few responses were entered manually by Lafleur. Eighty-two people responded to the survey. The results are posted below along with comments received for all open-ended questions.

Please note that the survey was available on-line prior to the community meeting and closed a day after. Most responses were received before the community conversation and prior to community members having the benefit of the fact sheet or conversation with other community members.



Thompson Community Center Survey

Q2 What are your thoughts about the future of the TCC/Yellow School Complex?

Answered: 75 Skipped: 7

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Its a tuff one because of condition and cost to maintain.	10/26/2019 8:35 AM
2	The complex has opportunity to continue to serve the local Union community with a combination of community support and an energetic TCC committee that develop a vision for TCC's future.	10/25/2019 5:51 PM
3	It appears that there are several community centric organizations that use the TCC. A concern would be where those organizations would be able to provide their services if the TCC is no longer an option.	10/25/2019 5:34 PM
4	It needs a lot of work inside and out. Creativity needed and also funds perhaps through housing for Union seniors if the septic system allows it. It needs better advertising of what and when events, classes, etc. happen. It looks awful with no trees, broken pavement and no plantings.	10/24/2019 11:46 PM
5	Elderly housing	10/24/2019 7:45 PM
6	The Penquest proposal to rehab the building with housing for the elderly and a community center should be brought up again.	10/24/2019 9:48 AM
7	I have not participated in any classes there but I know its an important facility and houses needed services to the community.	10/22/2019 8:50 AM
8	I like it to remain a community building, but it needs significant upgrading	10/21/2019 4:56 PM
9	Not sure...community events, fitness classes.	10/20/2019 8:09 PM
10	Fixing the outside of the building. It looks so tired & rundown. It needs a face lift. Have events more often to make more money.	10/16/2019 12:00 PM
11	We need to figure out a funding method	10/15/2019 8:17 PM
12	I think it's time that the town recognize that we have an amazing facility that needs some funds and attention to make it into a more useful and used building.	10/15/2019 8:01 PM
13	I love the tcc and want to see it thrive!	10/15/2019 3:26 PM
14	I hope that it doesn't go away!	10/15/2019 1:49 PM
15	More events and classes so we don't have to drive! GREAT VENUE!	10/15/2019 12:32 PM
16	Needs to stay a community building and not sold by greedy town managers for kick backs!	10/15/2019 9:45 AM
17	More of what it already does. A wonderful, historic town building!	10/15/2019 9:42 AM
18	I'd like to see it continue in the community for years to come	10/14/2019 7:57 AM
19	Keep it going!	10/14/2019 7:55 AM
20	It should be maintained by town and operated by a group with town and non-town staff	10/14/2019 7:54 AM
21	keep it	10/14/2019 7:52 AM
22	The Penquis proposal needs to be revisited. The current board has mis-managed this under utilized facility for years. A new vision and plan is needed. It is highly insulting that Lori campaigned for the Penquis proposal to be defeated and then celebrate with a "We Won" statement. The town of Union certainly lost by her actions!	10/12/2019 10:06 AM
23	I would like to have the town take advantage of the free Penquis evaluation for senior/low income housing with continued space for recreation, childcare and the thrift store	10/9/2019 9:26 AM
24	Leave it like it is the building holds alot of memories for alot of people ♥	10/8/2019 10:11 PM
25	TCC should continue as a community resource. Ideally, with community and town of Union support, the offerings would increase.	10/8/2019 9:01 AM

Thompson Community Center Survey

26	I think it is currently serving some of the needs of the community. With out the Thompson Center folks would have to drive further to get those needs met.	10/7/2019 8:08 PM
27	Should be for townfolk	10/6/2019 7:50 PM
28	Continue with flea markets, possibly music venue, community event center.	10/6/2019 8:34 AM
29	I really like the old building and what it offers to out community. There really needs to be more work done to it, like a really good cleaning to get rid of the moldy smell.	10/6/2019 7:54 AM
30	It's been a staple of the community for years. I would also like to see some type of plaque or naming of a section of this building in memory of my father Gregory Eaton who was respected in the community and the caretaker of this building for many years.	10/5/2019 1:16 PM
31	I think the building is gross and should be torn down. I think its a waste of money to keep investing in trying to get it to where it needs to be in order to host community activities. Tear it down and build a smaller complex that can actually be used.	10/4/2019 11:53 AM
32	I would like for the center to be utilized more, with community related events, meetings,dances,offices, with special emphasis on warm weather seasons, so as not to increase the fuel bill for winter operations.	10/4/2019 5:27 AM
33	I wish it could be around forever for flea markets and basketball birthday parties and other community opportunities.	10/3/2019 9:47 PM
34	Keep it running if the Town can sustain it! I'm sure it's well built and has plenty of life left with proper upkeep!!	10/3/2019 8:23 PM
35	It's an important piece of the town history, present and future!	10/3/2019 7:11 PM
36	I thought the idea of senior housing was a good one.	10/3/2019 6:26 PM
37	It could service as office rental space	10/3/2019 4:09 PM
38	Kept with what's currently in there	10/3/2019 9:14 AM
39	Businesses	10/1/2019 10:11 PM
40	Continue as a community center with funding assistance from the town.	9/30/2019 3:20 PM
41	The town could utilize the space better. Instead of doing events on the Common or in the Old Town House, some could be done at the Community Center. There are also plenty of class rooms and spaces that could be rented out for adult education programs.	9/30/2019 9:57 AM
42	Still a useable building. Just needs updating a little	9/30/2019 4:40 AM
43	More community offerings-fix the gym, offer sports	9/29/2019 10:44 PM
44	Would love to have it stay with the School room in tact.	9/29/2019 7:46 PM
45	Tear it down and build a newer more stable building.	9/29/2019 6:47 PM
46	Sell	9/29/2019 4:48 PM
47	Proper management running community activities	9/29/2019 10:17 AM
48	About how to make the most use out of each and every space.	9/29/2019 9:08 AM
49	Senior housing	9/29/2019 7:41 AM
50	I would love to see it continue in the direction it is going with even more community activities and businesses.	9/29/2019 6:24 AM
51	Housing for the age and community center	9/29/2019 4:07 AM
52	Registrar as historical building	9/28/2019 10:06 PM
53	It should be run better and better organized. The fact that it is a community center, that should be the focus.	9/28/2019 8:29 PM
54	Continue to allow a daycare facility to operate there. Use for more community events. Also allow karate or other sports to use facility.	9/28/2019 7:49 PM
55	Use it for recreational purposes and as a business incubator. Adult education and event space	9/28/2019 2:32 PM
56	More diverse programming/events.	9/28/2019 1:27 PM

Thompson Community Center Survey

Q3 How can this town-owned property best serve the needs of the community in the future?

Answered: 72 Skipped: 10

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Have many more town activities here. Great if more entrepreneurs decided to use this building so we don't have to leave town for some services.	10/26/2019 8:35 AM
2	I believe that it will take the development of options focused on making the TCC an asset to the local Union community. For TCC to be that asset it will require a positive and energetic effort by our Union community to include TCC Committee and our Selectmen. If the current situation continues on its course the building will fall further into disrepair that will erode its ability to serve the Union community.	10/25/2019 5:51 PM
3	It depends on the needs and requirements of the community with respect to operating and maintenance costs.	10/25/2019 5:34 PM
4	Find out about the septic system. Taxes are very high here, so unless we can cut town funding, I can't see paying much more to fund this. Certainly other similar towns have smaller municipal budgets.	10/24/2019 11:46 PM
5	Elderly housing	10/24/2019 7:45 PM
6	see 2	10/24/2019 9:48 AM
7	By keeping the day care center and food bank open. Host any classes/seminars of interest. (although, I know this happens at our library as well)	10/22/2019 8:50 AM
8	By continuing and expanding the many uses such a space can provide: business space, maker space, community function that require a space as big as the auditorium, and more	10/21/2019 4:56 PM
9	In addition to what takes place and with a little bit of resources it could be used for arts related events - performances including music and theater, classes in visual art, dance, music and theater, and art exhibits.	10/15/2019 8:01 PM
10	New businesses? New activities...	10/15/2019 3:26 PM
11	Stay available and affordable	10/15/2019 1:49 PM
12	Continuing Ed and network gatherings. After school programs?	10/15/2019 12:32 PM
13	Keep it a publicly owned building.	10/15/2019 9:45 AM
14	Movie nights. Educational talks. Soup kitchen. Open gym nights, esp in winter, health clinics	10/15/2019 9:42 AM
15	community events and fund-raiser	10/14/2019 7:57 AM
16	Listen to TCC on needs of elderly	10/14/2019 7:55 AM
17	House non-profits like food pantry and chamber	10/14/2019 7:54 AM
18	meetings, child activities, weddings etc.	10/14/2019 7:52 AM
19	This would be a great mixed use facility, recreation, business and the current Thrift Shop & Food Pantry. If the majority will not support housing, the leadership of the TCC needs to get the building up to code and presentable to attract business use.	10/12/2019 10:06 AM
20	See answer to #2	10/9/2019 9:26 AM
21	Possibly work with more local artists.. that can help the younger generation of artists	10/8/2019 10:11 PM
22	TCC already serves the needs of Union and surrounding communities. As noted above, consistent support of current programs and of expansion of services would enhance the value of TCC.	10/8/2019 9:01 AM
23	I would like to see it continue in it's current capacity and improved.	10/7/2019 8:08 PM
24	Put to vote	10/6/2019 7:50 PM

Thompson Community Center Survey

25	The whole building can be used for community events, the gym can offer basketball, floor hockey or gymnastic programs. It has a stage, why not a small theatre group? The rooms are in good shape to rent out space, how about a commercial kitchen? I am sure there are locals that could teach a canning class there or even a cooking class. Zumba, fitness classes, dance classes, how about a contra dance? There are limitless possibilities!	10/6/2019 7:54 AM
26	With minor upkeep it will continue to serve the community just fine.	10/5/2019 1:16 PM
27	A smaller complex with outdoor grounds. Like a playground and a walking path with benches. It would be nice to have a place for people to gather outside as well as inside in our community. How about chess/checker tables outside? How about a recreation committee that can provide basketballs, tennis raquets and balls to those who want to use the courts. How about a shuffleboard court? boccee ball court? horseshoe pit? We need activities that will get people of all ages out of the house and involved.	10/4/2019 11:53 AM
28	by being available and possibly a little advertising, as to what is available	10/4/2019 5:27 AM
29	Stay open and maintained	10/3/2019 9:47 PM
30	I'd like to see the tennis court/basketball courts more utilized! A nice playground for smaller children would be great! How about a monthly public supper to earn funds to put into the building? Everyone, especially the Senior Citizens, love public suppers and generally they only exist in the warmer months!	10/3/2019 8:23 PM
31	Remain open to benefit the town and those surrounding it	10/3/2019 7:11 PM
32	Housing	10/3/2019 6:26 PM
33	It is a vital part of the Union community and needs to grow with more interest or rental opportunities.	10/3/2019 4:09 PM
34	Maybe open up for local youth programs or church youth groups, after school groups to use for 1/2 off price to rent or suggested donation. Use rooms empty for health clinics, indoor yard sale (in winter), adult ED at night, also another idea is board game nights for any ages.. all these things would be great if people could use it at a reasonable cost..	10/3/2019 9:14 AM
35	Listen to the community	10/1/2019 10:11 PM
36	Gathering place, function hall, day camps, daycare, food pantry, used item store, sports camps, art camps, commercial kitchen,the possibilities are endless	9/30/2019 3:20 PM
37	Allow the community to rent space for classes and programs. Make this an easy process to do through the town office. Union is up and coming. Putting out the word that there is a wonderful space to be utilized for educational opportunities or community events could really boost its income and see the space become more of a well-known and sought out location.	9/30/2019 9:57 AM
38	Hoping on one side or my be office buildings	9/30/2019 4:40 AM
39	Fix the gym and hoops; open a gym and fitness opportunities. Offer more classes- continuing Ed, music lessons	9/29/2019 10:44 PM
40	Not sure as I don't live here now, but like to see it being us for the town people.	9/29/2019 7:46 PM
41	Level it all and start over.	9/29/2019 6:47 PM
42	N/a	9/29/2019 4:48 PM
43	Keep space for use for rentals for groups such as exercise. Find a group who will set up a fitness center.	9/29/2019 10:17 AM
44	Expand on local day care. Local place for parents to bring the kids such as kids unplugged in Belfast.	9/29/2019 9:08 AM
45	Activities for all	9/29/2019 8:46 AM
46	With aging community, union,warren,washington need senior housing that is not a nursing home	9/29/2019 7:41 AM
47	In the future having more diverse services and business opportunities housed in the buildings would be wonderful.	9/29/2019 6:24 AM
48	Get a strong board	9/29/2019 4:07 AM
49	More educational programs. Dance classes. Adult ed.	9/28/2019 10:12 PM
50	Have a community colleges offer class in the building,	9/28/2019 10:06 PM

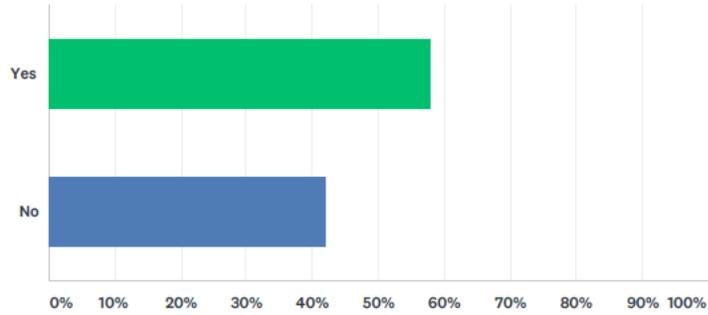
Thompson Community Center Survey

51	Offering free services. Places to meet. Offering things to do for children. It's needs to be CLEANED desperately.	9/28/2019 8:29 PM
52	Same as above.	9/28/2019 7:49 PM
53	Gymnastics	9/28/2019 7:36 PM
54	By remaining a community use building	9/28/2019 2:32 PM
55	Mixed use could work.	9/28/2019 1:27 PM
56	Given the square footage of the building a mixed use facility makes the most sense. Presently it is being underutilized.	9/27/2019 10:30 AM
57	I'm not sure because I don't know the financial story.	9/26/2019 9:36 PM
58	Meeting spaces for town organizations, reunion events, Saturday night dances/dinners, flea markets, pre-school spaces, offices for local businesses, exercise classes offered by local people or the Y, Thrift Shop, Food Pantry. Open every week day with an administrator in the office. Full time custodian to clean the building and to maintain sidewalks and the parking lots in the Winter.	9/25/2019 5:47 PM
59	by being an active center with offices of local organizations, and things like a pharmacy or drycleaning dropoff center.	9/24/2019 12:30 PM
60	Senior Housing, Thrift Shop and Food Pantry along with Community Space.	9/18/2019 12:55 PM
61	By continuing to provide space for community ops like the food pantry, Chamber, thrift store and all other nonprofits that need space.	9/17/2019 11:28 AM
62	co-op with Penbay for a clinic, or Physical therapy , more usable office space with high speed internet winter farmers market adult basketball etc.	9/17/2019 7:20 AM
63	By not costing taxpayer dollars, elderly housing ?	9/16/2019 11:39 AM
64	Provide programs and events in the space rather than just a gathering spot	9/11/2019 1:46 PM
65	See above	9/11/2019 1:03 PM
66	Elderly, affordable housing seems to be one of our growing priorities.	9/10/2019 6:16 AM
67	Elderly activities, teen activities, utilizing the gym for gym activities, teen dances	9/9/2019 10:03 PM
68	I think it needs to provide multiple services- open gym hours (not sure if that happens now) indoor play space for kids, hosting a variety of events and activities for the town, theme nights, I had also liked the idea of an affordable housing thrown in there, but don't exactly know how that would work.	9/9/2019 6:35 PM
69	Sold or turned into elderly housing	9/5/2019 8:44 AM
70	The TCC has a 99 year lease, the Town voted for this lease years ago so they would have no financial obligations. Keep it that way	9/4/2019 7:42 AM
71	Have a committee in control that actually wants the building there. People who will work to make improvements and not hope for it to fail so they can put something else there. The building should bring in an income so that it is self sustaining with enough coming in to maintain the building an provide quality events and programming.	8/29/2019 10:31 PM
72	Community Center for recreational programs, community activities, and space for businesses.	8/29/2019 4:37 PM

Thompson Community Center Survey

Q4 Do you currently use the TCC facilities?

Answered: 81 Skipped: 1

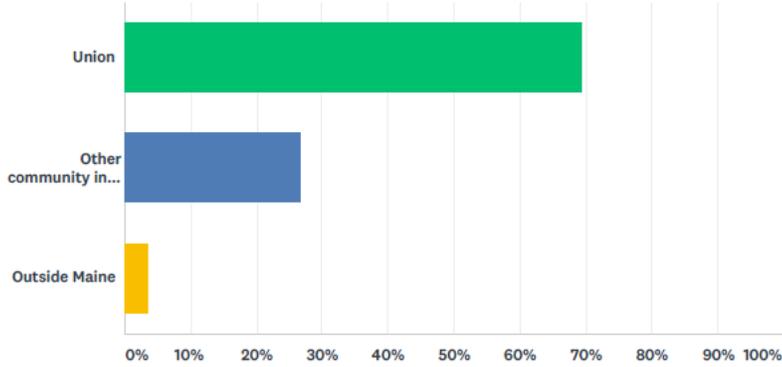


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	58.02%	47
No	41.98%	34
TOTAL		81

Thompson Community Center Survey

Q5 What town do you live in?

Answered: 82 Skipped: 0

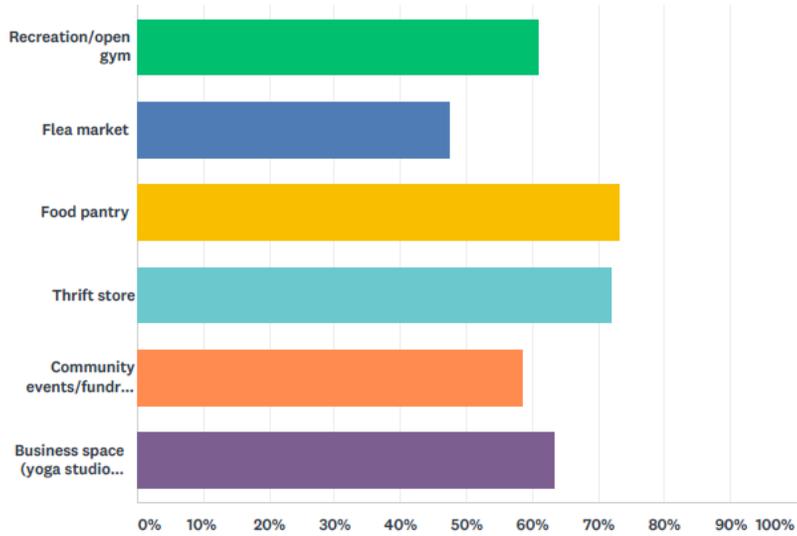


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Union	69.51% 57
Other community in Maine	26.83% 22
Outside Maine	3.66% 3
TOTAL	82

Thompson Community Center Survey

Q6 What is the most valuable function(s) currently for the Community Center? (Check all that apply.)

Answered: 82 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Recreation/open gym	60.98% 50
Flea market	47.56% 39
Food pantry	73.17% 60
Thrift store	71.95% 59
Community events/fundraisers	58.54% 48
Business space (yoga studio, childcare and hair salon)	63.41% 52
Total Respondents: 82	

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Our family don't currently utilize the TCC, but we actively support the Food Pantry. This winter we do intend to use the gym for walking.	10/25/2019 5:51 PM
2	All of the above are valuable assets to the community. We actively support the food pantry.	10/25/2019 5:34 PM
3	These could ALL continue if the right people were to develop the old school into elderly housing PLUS there is one outfit that said they would fix up the gym, thrift store, food pantry etc.	10/24/2019 7:45 PM
4	I think they are all useful and appreciated by the community	10/22/2019 8:50 AM
5	All are ongoing	10/21/2019 4:56 PM
6	Can an apartment or two be added up stairs?	10/16/2019 12:00 PM
7	Music and comedy (no alcohol) when you have them. Need better promo! Often miss them.	10/15/2019 12:32 PM

Thompson Community Center Survey

8	senior day care	10/14/2019 7:52 AM
9	Everything offered currently is valuable. Although the thrift store exists to support TCC, the cost and quality of its offerings are a huge advantage to Union and surrounding towns. Many people -- me included -- shop there to stretch their budgets.	10/8/2019 9:01 AM
10	I think they are all valuable functions. I visit the thrift store weekly, donated to the food pantry, gone to yoga classes, visited the flea market, gone to suppers, attended chamber meetings. And I just summer here!	10/6/2019 7:54 AM
11	TCC just seems like a big waste of space. The amount of money being sunk into it is crazy. Honestly I don't know of any community events that TCC has hosted. As far as I knew TCC couldn't host activities and events due to the fire sprinklers not being up to code	10/4/2019 11:53 AM
12	All the above. Very important to the community - especially as the times get tougher for families and older adults.	9/30/2019 3:20 PM
13	old school room	9/29/2019 7:46 PM
14	All of these are great things. Farmers market?	9/29/2019 9:08 AM
15	I think all of the above functions are equally valuable to the community.	9/29/2019 6:24 AM
16	Residential housing	9/27/2019 10:30 AM
17	Housing for Seniors	9/18/2019 12:55 PM
18	Any community service that needs space. Such as a public health nurse teaching people about Lyme disease or other topics - nutrition - etc	9/17/2019 11:28 AM
19	Affordable housing for the elderly.	9/10/2019 8:32 PM
20	Rental for music events, jam sessions, contradance venue, exercise classes, retail and office rental space, club meetings, after school program for children, coffee shop.	9/10/2019 11:10 AM
21	Thanksgiving dinner	9/9/2019 10:03 PM
22	Basketball courts, tennis courts.	8/29/2019 10:31 PM

Thompson Community Center Survey

Q7 What additional activities would you like to see at TCC?

Answered: 63 Skipped: 19

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	dances, music, plays, pickle ball, bridge	10/26/2019 8:35 AM
2	Though I don't have any suggestions currently, I believe that if the building was properly maintained and the TCC opportunities were actively made known to the local community the utilization rate of the facility would increase.	10/25/2019 5:51 PM
3	More events for adults and families that are well advertised- music, holidays, and physical activities.	10/24/2019 11:46 PM
4	None	10/24/2019 7:45 PM
5	Theater, dances, auctions, benefits are some ideas	10/21/2019 4:56 PM
6	Not sure	10/20/2019 8:09 PM
7	Dances, Yard Sales, Teaching classes...Art, Music, etc....	10/16/2019 12:00 PM
8	answered in #3	10/15/2019 8:01 PM
9	Undure	10/15/2019 3:26 PM
10	Haunted house? Seasonal community gathering?	10/15/2019 12:32 PM
11	Just keep it publicly owned	10/15/2019 9:45 AM
12	Dances. Movies. Plays	10/15/2019 9:42 AM
13	community fun events	10/14/2019 7:57 AM
14	programs for the elderly	10/14/2019 7:54 AM
15	Adult Ed, GED, College Extension courses, lectures, historical society presentations, Social activities for teens & seniors. Generally, activities that build community.	10/12/2019 10:06 AM
16	Adult education classes	10/9/2019 9:26 AM
17	Its great what they already have	10/8/2019 10:11 PM
18	Bringing back Bingo!	10/8/2019 9:02 AM
19	Hard to say. TCC already offers occasional classes/workshops but perhaps some adult education classes (a few of the school district classes) could be added to the schedule. More small businesses would be great. More events for kids. Each suggestion requires people in the community to step up and help though. One or two people cannot do everything.	10/8/2019 9:01 AM
20	Don't know	10/6/2019 7:50 PM
21	Musical events. Theatre.	10/6/2019 8:34 AM
22	I would love to see the whole center occupied, start making some revenue, fix it up a bit on the outside, it does look a bit dumpy. Put some solar panels on it, clean it up inside, it is dated and moldy smelling. Would love to see a theatre group, dance, movie night, parents night out. Have a seniors group during the day, a knitting circle with free beverages,.	10/6/2019 7:54 AM
23	Place a large white screen inside the gym and hold a movie night. That would attract additional events to the center.	10/5/2019 1:16 PM
24	Community activities for kids. Weekly dodgeball games, or capture the flag. Again a recreation department who can organize weekly activities for different age groups. Kids to seniors. We can do tag games for kids, senior chair fitness classes, group exercise classes etc. TCC could totally be used for people to get moving in the winter and summer. You have the space use it. How about summer camps for kids that can bring in money? vacation programs for kids - this could bring in money.	10/4/2019 11:53 AM
25	weddings, shows,any indoor recreations	10/4/2019 5:27 AM

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Thompson Community Center Survey

26	Line dancing classes	10/3/2019 9:47 PM
27	Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts meetings and events, 4H and other clubs	10/3/2019 8:23 PM
28	Haunted house/tours. Pumpkin carving/Halloween party Variety of events could be done to raise money for the building upkeep	10/3/2019 7:11 PM
29	Senior citizen activities/respice care	10/3/2019 6:26 PM
30	not sure	10/3/2019 4:09 PM
31	Monthly concerts/shows to benefit the community center, public dinners etc and maybe homeschoolers meetings or groups meeting there	10/3/2019 9:14 AM
32	Town meetings - there is so much more room in the gym than in the small downstairs at the town hall. Voting - again much more room. Medical offices, counselors, etc	9/30/2019 3:20 PM
33	The town of Union should think about using the Community Center for more seasonal get togethers. There could be a pantry drive for Thanksgiving, a haunted hallway for Halloween, or a Christmas get-together with food and caroling. There's better parking there, and room for a lot more people than there is on the Common for these things.	9/30/2019 9:57 AM
34	Unk at this time	9/30/2019 4:40 AM
35	Fix the gym, have b-ball and things like a women's b-ball team; open a fitness/gym....cont Ed opportunities	9/29/2019 10:44 PM
36	Have no recommendation	9/29/2019 7:46 PM
37	Maybe have a half way house for recovering drug addicts.	9/29/2019 6:47 PM
38	community events	9/29/2019 10:17 AM
39	Farmers market. I dont know the status of the indoor space but can it be rented for events?	9/29/2019 9:08 AM
40	Teen, young adult activities.	9/29/2019 8:46 AM
41	I don't know if it would be a proper use of the space, but the one thing that I have always wished was available in Union is a pharmacy.	9/29/2019 6:24 AM
42	Functions and rentals	9/29/2019 4:07 AM
43	Already answered	9/28/2019 10:12 PM
44	Family movie nights, play movies in one of the lager rooms.	9/28/2019 10:06 PM
45	More children's activities and things hosted for children there. The space is big, and AMAZING. It does need a good cleaning and painting.	9/28/2019 8:29 PM
46	More community events like concerts.	9/28/2019 7:49 PM
47	Gymnastics cheerleading	9/28/2019 7:36 PM
48	Tennis lessons, adult education space, daycare	9/28/2019 2:32 PM
49	More activities and well kept playground /park for school aged children.	9/27/2019 10:30 AM
50	A comfortable space that could be used for a meeting space.	9/26/2019 9:36 PM
51	(see above) and by being a central point for local activities such as meeting facilities, open exercise area, or children's learning center.	9/24/2019 12:30 PM
52	We need Senior housing in Union for people that are living alone, need social interaction, and a warm safe place to Age in Place. The wait for housing is months to a year for senior housing in Knox County, and then you are taking people out of their community of Union.	9/18/2019 12:55 PM
53	Exercise programs in the gym - esp for elderly folks like me.	9/17/2019 11:28 AM
54	more business rentals plus more adult activities, clinic, PT, etc many options to be explored	9/17/2019 7:20 AM
55	Your survey is bias as it assumes people want to keep it, you did not put choices for things your group does not want.	9/16/2019 11:39 AM
56	Collaboration with the town for indoor winter events.	9/11/2019 1:46 PM
57	Dances and events for older folk.	9/11/2019 1:03 PM

Thompson Community Center Survey

58	how about some adult education/college courses?	9/10/2019 6:16 AM
59	Gym activities, basketball, volleyball, teen options, use of the stage for plays or shows	9/9/2019 10:03 PM
60	Maybe some adult Ed classes; fitness classes; more variety of events offered.	9/9/2019 6:35 PM
61	None, facility is an eyesore, not fit for additional activities	9/5/2019 8:44 AM
62	Affordable exercise classes. Regular gym time—for youth in our area...like EVERY DAY. Not renting out the gym to sports teams which takes it away from kids in our community. If we had this available word would get out and kids would come..... Dances, girls nights where there is a craft activity or a speaker (maybe parenting). Community building events. Potlucks. Family events.	8/29/2019 10:31 PM
63	More recreational activities, community events, and more small businesses renting space there.	8/29/2019 4:37 PM

Thompson Community Center Survey

Q8 Is there anything else you would like to share?

Answered: 58 Skipped: 24

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	We need to bring it back to life as the light of the community. Children's activities. Indoor Halloween, x-mas parties for families.	10/26/2019 8:35 AM
2	For the TCC to have a real chance to reach its capabilities to serve the community we have to have a far greater coordination between TCC Committee and Union Selectmen to create a viable future for the facility. Without that it's my belief that the TCC needs then to be sold to a buyer for development. Time for our leaders to "get off the pot..."	10/25/2019 5:51 PM
3	Not sure how activities, events, and offerings are advertised to the community at large, unless one is actively involved in that activity.	10/25/2019 5:34 PM
4	The State Soil Scientist, Dave Rocque, will check soils and septic for free.	10/24/2019 11:46 PM
5	People have said that they don't want more space for elderly moving into their small, New England atmosphere town...that is why they moved here...so they can move here but no one else can it sounds.	10/24/2019 7:45 PM
6	Fix it up, paint, make it look less like an outdated school, inside and out. The brick side is particularly unattractive.	10/21/2019 4:56 PM
7	I am interested in other's suggestions about how to make the best use of the space.	10/20/2019 8:09 PM
8	Main concern is improving the outside	10/16/2019 12:00 PM
9	Around 1988 I along with my husband and other citizens of Union served on a committee to determine if the school (yellow and brick) should be torn down or used for other activities since the new school on route 17 was opened in 1987. Those who appointed us were distressed that we determined the building should remain. I was thrilled to see that it was made into a community center. We all know over the years that we've had several directors and the building has had multiple uses. (I hope someone has the history in writing). It's time that the town make a full commitment to maintain and upgrade the building so it could continue to be used for what it offers and expand. A building of its size could not be built today due to the costs.	10/15/2019 8:01 PM
10	No but I really love the tcc	10/15/2019 3:26 PM
11	The thrift store is amazing. It would be a shame if it had to close	10/15/2019 3:13 PM
12	Lots of history and opportunity. Don't give up hope! We need to celebrate our rural nature.	10/15/2019 12:32 PM
13	No	10/15/2019 9:45 AM
14	Town officials should be supportive of this building and its potentials, not wasting energy trying to take it away from the town.	10/15/2019 9:42 AM
15	Why is there no clear disclosure of TCC finances? What is the TCC hiding. The attitude of the TCC is that the town in the enemy. As long as the TCC maintains that stance we will not see positive results unless someone contributes a large sum to get this sad looking and smelling building up to reasonable condition for occupancy.	10/12/2019 10:06 AM
16	I, and (I don't believe), many in the town wish to be taxed more for much needed repairs and restoration of the building. Would like to see financial transparency of the TCC costs and revenues.	10/9/2019 9:26 AM
17	Great place!	10/8/2019 9:02 AM
18	TCC seems well managed on a shoestring. People I know are very supportive of the center and what it provides. I sense an undercurrent of wanting either complete change or the dismantling of the center. This is puzzling to me because I think TCC is a great value to Union and to those of us who live in nearby towns but use the center. Why Union would want to get rid of or greatly change something that works is hard to explain.	10/8/2019 9:01 AM

Thompson Community Center Survey

19	I live in Appleton. Other than the library there is not community meeting place in my town. My family primarily uses the thrift store. It serves a vital need of recycling no longer needed goods and providing them to the community at an affordable price at a time when it is hard for a lot of folks to make ends meet.	10/7/2019 8:08 PM
20	No	10/6/2019 7:50 PM
21	Anything that can produce income and upkeep for the building and be an asset to the community.	10/6/2019 8:34 AM
22	I think it is a waste to let the TCC fall in to disrepair. I voted against getting big box business into our town and now we have a dumpy Dollar Store. Union needs to change it's image to attract younger people to continue in our places. We need to fix up the run down buildings, plant flower boxes, add some country charm to the area. Replace the bottle drive bin with an old wagon. Do something!	10/6/2019 7:54 AM
23	I would like to see some type of plaque or dedication for my father Gregory P Eaton who was the maintenance/keeper of the facility for many years. That would be a great tribute to him and the community that respected him as a person.	10/5/2019 1:16 PM
24	I have tons of ideas.....	10/4/2019 11:53 AM
25	I love that it's a part of the community. Better advertising for what is available would be nice. I am from waldoboro and would love to utilize the center more but I don't know much about the day to day uses.	10/3/2019 9:47 PM
26	Is there someone that's in charge of the outside grounds, specifically near the Courts? I'd like to see those bushes cleaned up or removed and the space used for a play area for children	10/3/2019 8:23 PM
27	nothing comes to mind	10/3/2019 4:09 PM
28	Thanks for all you guys do - what a blessing to our community	10/3/2019 9:14 AM
29	It should receive some funding from the town. It is providing a much needed service to the town. YES, hungry and poor people live in this town too.	9/30/2019 3:20 PM
30	I used to live in Union. I grew up with all of the town functions happening on the Common and sticking to the heart of Union. While the space is beautiful for our community and certain events are great there, the TCC is not too far away and boasts a lot more room. It would be in Union's best interests not to waste that space. Advertise to people who are interested in running classes and having spaces for business opportunities. It'll bring more activity and revenue to Union and will help pay for some much needed renovations to the building.	9/30/2019 9:57 AM
31	No	9/30/2019 4:40 AM
32	Thanks	9/29/2019 10:44 PM
33	Just like to see it used and preserved. It is a historic building.	9/29/2019 7:46 PM
34	Not at this time	9/29/2019 6:47 PM
35	no	9/29/2019 10:17 AM
36	Just hope it has enough going on to always keep the doors open.	9/29/2019 9:08 AM
37	Camden rockland waldoboro all have senior housing warren has one small complex but the waiting list at these places is long	9/29/2019 7:41 AM
38	Thank you for all the wonderful work that you are already doing!	9/29/2019 6:24 AM
39	Not now	9/29/2019 4:07 AM
40	The building is a landmark in northern Knox county. It's has a lot of history. It needs, to stay a community building	9/28/2019 10:06 PM
41	I think new people need to run it. It seems very disorganized.	9/28/2019 8:29 PM
42	The day care at the TCC is currently the only one in the entire town of Union. Very important for them to have a space to operate.	9/28/2019 7:49 PM
43	Cheaper gymnastics and cheerleading for kids of school ages would be great for here	9/28/2019 7:36 PM
44	What is the actual square footage needed for the community center for a town of 2200 people? I agree that an active well kept facility is import, but most of the building is vacant. It's not the best use of the whole building. Mixed use comprising of housing, community center and low impact businesses.	9/27/2019 10:30 AM

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45	I'd like to see the Town take more responsibility for it.	9/24/2019 12:30 PM
46	It was very short sighted to turn down the Penquis opportunity to continue to look at the feasibility of using the TCC/Yellow School for Housing.	9/18/2019 12:55 PM
47	Really don't want to see these bldgs. lost to the community.	9/17/2019 11:28 AM
48	This building is a great asset to the town and should be maintained and used to it's fullest.	9/17/2019 7:20 AM
49	I am predicting you will pass this on to the taxpayers as you have tried to do in the past. One of your members Erick something said they would go raise funds for everything and then a month or two later asked for money. (according to the town office minutes)	9/16/2019 11:39 AM
50	You are doing a great job. Thank you for taking care of this building.	9/11/2019 1:46 PM
51	Have more local folk on the administrative board. Have the town officials assume responsibility for the complex, don't farm it out to those who don't live in town.	9/11/2019 1:03 PM
52	I do appreciate the difficulties and challenges inherent in this process of deciding what to do with a building that so many have ties to and fond memories of, and yet that is very costly to upkeep.	9/10/2019 6:16 AM
53	The town leaders have made it difficult for tcc to operate, with the way they have handled things. The tcc is self supporting with no tax payers money. The town has required building upgrades to a town owned building. As a tenant and per the lease, the tcc is responsible for maintenance, not upgrades. The towns requiring tcc to install new sprinkler and fire alarm systems, is a building upgrade, improvement and betterment, not maintenance. The town refused to help with grants or anything to help tcc succeed. They make the tcc insure the building that the town never intends on replacing for like kind and quality if it were to burn down or a total loss. There are so many community events that could be possible in this building if the town and tcc worked together	9/9/2019 10:03 PM
54	No	9/9/2019 6:35 PM
55	People on your committee are very bias. Karen, Eric, Martha, I was appalled at some of the comments they make. You do not have a neutral position . And I surely do not want spendthrift Admundson having anything to do with the building	9/5/2019 8:44 AM
56	I do not trust some people who are on this "committee". Eric is a spendthrift on the school board and would have the taxpayers spend millions on this. Karen is a pot stirrer who will walk away and expect others to do the work and then criticize how it is done. Let's talk about who is going to pay????	9/4/2019 7:42 AM
57	Everyone is doing the best we can but we will continue to limp along unless we make a change....a BIG ONE. We need funding and we need there to be a big push of momentum to get things rolling. Clear out those rooms. Get them rented. Paint the front. We can't keep doing the same things each year and expecting a different result. I love the thrift store. There are tons of bargains there.....BUT--- every time I turn around there is a .25 or .50 sale. I love these.... BUT how are we to make money for the building if we are letting things go for a quarter? Do we set aside higher quality items and sell them on ebay? Yes, I know that takes more time but with a good system it can be done. How can we overhaul some of the things that we have been doing one way to make strides in the direction we want to go in. How do we sell things at the thrift store for a quarter but then we overcharge the spaces upstairs so much that people won't rent? There must be a balance. For me, success would be ALL kinds of cars outside because of all that was going on inside. We need more businesses operating there. We need more kids there after school shooting hoops. The more you get people in the door, the more they are invested in the building keeping its doors open.	8/29/2019 10:31 PM
58	If TCC had Broadband Internet, this would attract more businesses. TCC could create a co-working space for remote workers.	8/29/2019 4:37 PM

This report and summary of the Community Conversation and survey results was prepared for the Committee for the Future of the Thompson Community Center by

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