

Exeter News

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Obama signs off on \$1 million for SCC

Community center slated for Exeter

BY JENNIFER FEALS
jfeals@seacoastonline.com

President Barack Obama has signed into law \$1 million in funding for Squamscott Community Center, a community center slated for the former Exeter Area Junior High School on Linden Street in Exeter.

"Now, more than ever, communities need to be looking for ways to streamline services and reduce costs for non-profits, and this project

will provide comprehensive access to social, health, recreational, cultural and educational services under one roof," said Robin Drunsic, executive director of Squamscott Community Commons.

The funds were included in the Fiscal Year 2010 consolidated appropriations bill and are within the appropriations committee allocation set out for FY10 funding.

While Squamscott Community Commons organizers won't be cut a check for \$1 million, the federal government will reimburse them for costs associated with the project.

Throughout the process, New Hampshire Republican Sen. Judd Gregg, and Democratic Sen. Jeanne Shaheen, have shown strong sup-

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port for the project and have both applauded the center for the much needed health, recreation and community resources it will offer the Seacoast.

Carter Siegel, chair of the Squamscott Community Commons steering committee, said the project will not only have a significant impact on the quality of life for thousands of Seacoast residents, but will be a model for the nation in nonprofit sustainable design, environmental stewardship, economies of scale and regional collaboration.

"The backing of Sens. Shaheen and Gregg is a valuable testament to the project's worth and will inspire others

to support this important regional project," Siegel said.

Thousands of seniors, children and adults will be able to come together under one roof thanks to the federal funding and the commitment of Squamscott Community Commons, Shaheen said.

"Squamscott Community Commons is a great example of a local community working together to provide helpful resources for families and individuals in the area," said Gregg, who is a senior member of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

The 80,000-square-foot, multi-tenant community center will house a full-service YMCA, SeaCare Health Services, Exeter Center for the Creative Arts, Great Bay Kids Company and Rocking-

ham Community Action.

Donations can be made to the organization, which is tax exempt under IRS Sec 501(c)(3) tax ID# 31-1646877.

Send donations to Squamscott Community Commons, P.O. Box 521, Exeter, NH 03833-0521 or go online to www.squamscott.org.