

1772 MEETINGHOUSE RESTORATION COMMITTEE MEETING

March 20, 2024 4:00 p.m.

Community Room New Durham, NH

Members Present: Ellen Phillips, Cathy Allyn, Bob Bickford, Clayton Randall

Member Present Remotely: Robin Bickford

Others Present: Marc deCoff, Cathy Orlowicz, Rudy Rosiello

*1. Call to Order:*

Chairperson Ellen Phillips called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

*2. Approval of Minutes:*

**Motion by Bob Bickford to approve the minutes of February 28, 2024, as written; second by Clayton Randall. A roll call vote was taken: Cathy Allyn – aye; Bob Bickford – aye; Robin Bickford – aye; Phillips – aye; Randall – aye. The motion carried unanimously.**

*3. Approval of Treasurer's Report:*

Chair Phillips reported that Finance Manager Vickie Blackden sent her a printout indicating, as of February 29, 2024, there is \$89,751.31 in the CRF and \$29,464.54 in the Expendable Charitable Trust for a total of \$119,215.53. Chair Phillips said the \$300.00 donation for the Spring Fling was included in that. We added \$252.25 this month in clothing shed checks, so the total in the Expendable Charitable Trust will be \$29,715.79 for a grand total of \$119,467.68. She said she tracked down that \$1,158.00 was paid out in October of 2023: \$1,000 for the commemorative stones and engraving, and \$158.00 for the donation plaque. She added that if the \$20,000 addition to the CRF had been approved, we would have had enough to match a grant that would complete Phase 2.

**Motion by Mr. Randall to approve the treasurer's report; second by Mr. Bickford. A roll call vote was taken: Allyn – aye; Robert Bickford – aye; Robin Bickford – aye; Phillips – aye; Randall – aye. The motion carried unanimously.**

*4. Election of Officers:*

**Motion by Chair Phillips to nominate Bob Bickford as chairperson; second by Clayton Randall. A roll call vote was taken: Allyn – aye; Robert Bickford – aye; Robin Bickford – aye; Phillips – aye; Randall – aye. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion by Cathy Allyn to nominate Clayton Randall as vice-chairperson; second by Bob Bickford. A roll call vote was taken: Allyn – aye; Robert Bickford – aye; Robin Bickford – aye; Phillips – aye; Randall – abstain. The motion carried.**

**Motion by Cathy Allyn to nominate Ellen Phillips as treasurer; second by Bob**

**Bickford. A roll call vote was taken: Allyn – aye; Robert Bickford – aye; Robin Bickford – aye; Phillips – aye; Randall – aye. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion by Chair Phillips to nominate Cathy Allyn as secretary; second by Bob Bickford. A roll call vote was taken: Allyn – aye; Robert Bickford – aye; Robin Bickford – aye; Phillips – aye; Randall – aye. The motion carried unanimously.**

*5. Update on Grants:*

Chair Phillips said she spoke with Maureen Quinn at CDFA regarding applying for a Community Block Grant. Ms. Quinn informed her that New Durham's CPI is too high and will keep us from applying.

Consensus was to not pursue a tax credit grant through CDFA, either.

Mr. Bickford said WarrenStreet is still working with us and could influence the mix.

Ms. Allyn brought up the meeting with George Born of LCHIP and reviewed the main reasons the LCHIP grant was denied: the project was not shovel ready; the review panel considered our scope of work unconventional; the panel considered our preservation plan non-qualifying, as it was written by a contractor who may do the work; our funding had contingencies and the panel wanted more than the necessary match already in hand; and they had questions about the dating of structure elements taken from the Historic Building Assessment.

Mr. Randall said contractors he has spoken with do not want to travel far to job sites.

Chair Phillips said the first order of business was to get a preservation plan that met LCHIP's criteria. Mr. Bickford noted that alternative ways of effecting the repairs should be included. He said he would look into contracting a qualified person to draw up the preservation plan. Chair Phillips said she would look into a grant to pay the architects.

*6. Update on Spring Fling:*

Chair Phillips: no response from TD Bank for a donation

Mr. Randall: suggested asking Farmington businesses

Ms. Allyn: contacted two people for Silent Auction; contacted food truck again, with no response; contacted a person for baked goods; one response from possible helper; Rec Dept is in; info sent to email list; event created on Facebook; will ask if event can be on Rec sign in front of Town Hall

Mr. Bickford: photo opp will be taken care of

Mrs. Bickford: located pies for pie-eating contest and will handle all elements of that  
Marc deCoff: offered to have a sign for the event on his property

*7. Schedule Next Meeting:*

The Committee scheduled the next meeting for April 3, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. at the Community Room.

*8. Adjournment:*

**Motion by Bob Bickford at 5:15 p.m. to adjourn; second by Clayton Randall. A**

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**roll call vote was taken: Allyn – aye; Robert Bickford – aye; Robin Bickford – aye; Phillips – aye; Randall – aye. The motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,  
*Cathy L. Allyn*