1772 MEETINGHOUSE RESTORATION COMMITTEE
MEETING
Wednesday, April 25, 2018   7:00 p.m.
New Durham Public Library

Members present: Chairperson George Gale, Cathy Allyn, Clayton Randall
Absent: Robert Craycraft (excused)

Others present: Robin Bickford, Robert Bickford

I. Call to Order: Chairperson George Gale called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

II. Grants: Moose Plate Grants – Chair Gale said he'd spoken with Amy Dixon who is running that program. The Committee is unable to apply for a grant now, as applications require a bid for the project under consideration. He said our next phase of work is the framework.

The Committee's NH Preservation Alliance field representative, Andrew Cushing, called Chair Gale to see if we were applying. Chair Gale said the framework would probably be done in two years.

He noted that Ms. Dixon was intrigued with mapping the Town's original cemetery, on the Meetinghouse grounds, with ground penetrating radar, but counseled it would not be a good choice for a Moose Plate grant.

III. Planning: Chair Gale advised that the framework would probably be in 2020, which is also the building's 250th birthday, because only a few contractors are qualified to do the work, and they are often booked far in advance.

IV. Activity: Member Clayton Randall has marked all of the dead and dangerous trees to be removed, and arranged to have them removed May 10 or May 11 by NorthEast Arbor Tec. The company will also remove all of the logs and chips.

Eight feet of the stonewall needs to be peeled back so the Town crew can get in to remove piles of large rocks that must be gone by the time the foundation work begins. Chair Gale and Clayton will meet on Friday to do that with their tractors.

V. Events: Annual Clean-up Day – Chair Gale said clearing of the trails and grounds should be done before Memorial Day. The Committee decided Saturday, May 19, 2018 would be preferable, beginning at 9:00 a.m. Hopefully, it can be coordinated with work on the Community Garden. Clayton said Cub Scouts were interested in being involved, and they could put brush in a truck. He is to follow up on this. People would need to bring their own equipment, drinking water, and a lunch.

The Committee discussed upcoming events. All agreed that the guitar concert, originally thought to be held prior to the foundation work, should be during New

Durham Day. It can be held outside. Chair Gale and Clayton will meet with Tom Ahern to get a clearer idea of his timeframe regarding the foundation work.

Open Houses – The Committee picked June 9, July 14 and August 18 (County Fair Judging) for Open Houses from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. New Durham Day is July 28, and the Open House will be from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Chair Gale is to look into bringing in other musicians and conducting tandem tours. Suggestions for making the event much larger were considered.

Fundraising fete – The Merrymeeting Lake Association is in the process of raising funds for another project, and, therefore, the Committee tabled the idea for a year.

Senior Dinner – Chair Gale has spoken with those running the Senior Dinner, and all are on board to have a picnic-like gathering at the Meetinghouse while the weather is still warm.

Halloween – The consensus was to have another Halloween event.

VI. Upcoming: Chair Gale said we need estimates for follow-on work, such as plaster work, siding, and electrical, after the framework is done. He said he would get a list of recommended contractors from the NH Preservation Alliance.

VII. Approval of Minutes: **Motion by Chair Gale to approve the minutes of November 8, 2017 and March 21, 2018, as written; second by Clayton. The motion carried unanimously.**

VIII. Schedule Next Meeting: It was the consensus of the Committee to schedule regular meetings on the second Wednesday of each month. The next meeting is to be held May 9, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the New Durham Public Library.

IX. Adjournment: **Motion by Cathy Allyn at 8:10 p.m. to adjourn; second by Chair Gale. The motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Allyn