

1772 MEETINGHOUSE RESTORATION COMMITTEE
MEETING

Feb. 9, 2022 6:00 p.m.

New Durham Community Room Main St. New Durham, NH

Members attending: Cathy Allyn, Robert Bickford, Robin Bickford, Ellen Phillips, Jon Mouradian, and Clayton Randall

Absent: (excused) Heather Freeman

Call to Order: Chairperson Cathy Allyn called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Jon Mouradian to approve the minutes of January 12, 2022, as written; second by Robin Bickford. The motion carried unanimously.

Updates:

Financial Report: Ms. Phillips provided the Committee with a written report of finances through February 9, 2022. With the addition of a check for \$100 received in January, the Committee has received donations totaling \$5,475.00 since Oct. 20, 2021. The January clothing shed check was for \$136.18, for a total of \$1,516.71. Notecard sales remain at \$191.00. Total in the non-lapsing account, minus monies owed Mr. Mouradian, equals \$8,294.29. The total in the CRF is \$67,966.71. A contribution of \$5,000 to the CRF, recommended 3-0 by BOS and 7-0 by the Budget Committee, appears on the warrant. If the article passes, the total in the CRF would be \$72,966.71.

Motion to approve the financial report by Jon Mouradian; second by Robert Bickford. The motion carried unanimously.

NHPA Surveys: Everyone on the mailing list, the BOS, and TA were invited to attend the presentation of the final report by preservation consultant Meghan Gross. Three members of the public attended, along with the Committee. Members were thrilled with the results, and the report provides us with just what we needed to indicate widespread support of the restoration project to Town officials and funding agencies. Ms. Gross provided the Committee with the PowerPoint program she created. Relevant results were posted to the Committee's Facebook page, along with thanks to those who participated in the surveys.

Electronic Account: Ms. Allyn said the TA referred her to the Finance Manager regarding setting up a separate bank account for the Committee; after speaking with the Finance Manager, it was clear that if the day-to-day transactions went through the Town, the Finance Manager did not have the time or assistance to handle the amount of work involved. Ms. Phillips said there must be a way to set up an account so the work, other than daily transcripts, did not have to go to the Finance Manager.

Ms. Allyn said she would check with the TA to see about calling the Municipal Association for input.

Thermometer: Mr. Mouradian said he has the thermometer banner at the clothing shed set at \$70,000. He has green bars to add to it as funds increase.

Brochures: Ms. Allyn said no progress has been made, but she will have more time to work on it in the coming weeks. She suggested having the main brochure, and also a separate one for the fundraiser. She will get the text to Mr. Bickford, who will format it. Ms. Phillips suggested sending out a newsletter in April, to include information on the fundraiser and upcoming events. Ms. Allyn and Mr. Bickford will work on it.

Moving Forward –

BOS:

Ms. Allyn said she spoke to the TA about putting the Committee on an upcoming BOS agenda, but had no date as yet.

Fundraising:

Commemorative Stones- Ms. Allyn and Mr. Mouradian met previously regarding marketing strategy and she presented their report. Since the exact location of the stones will not be determined until the end of the fundraiser (based on number of stones sold), wording for publicity will be along the lines of: ...to be used as a landscape feature on the Meetinghouse grounds. Mr. Bickford will research a free Google website to facilitate ordering of the stones. Several suggestions for the slogan were discussed.

Motion by Jon Mouradian to utilize the phrase “Honor the past and build the future” as the campaign slogan; second by Ellen Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

New Durham Year:

Ms. Phillips will be attending a Parks and Recreation Dept. meeting concerning New Durham Year and wanted to outline all of the Meetinghouse events: Winter Carnival Snowshoe Races, March 5 (Ms. Phillips, David Allyn, Mr. Mouradian; refreshments supplied by Mr. Mouradian); participation in the Historical Society’s program of April 14, 2022; children’s Storytime and craft, May 14 at 11:00 a.m.; installing a local history walk along the nature trail for the summer; beer tasting with the Muddy Road Brewery and Funky Gringo taco food truck along with tours and possibly a display on Saturday, June 4 from 1-4; art show/wine tasting with local or NH wines on July 23 from 1-4; Open House on New Durham Day, time to be determined; ice cream social with display of a lye stone and Meetinghouse doors on Sunday, Aug. 21 from 1-3; a trivia contest on Sunday, September 18 from 1-3; a Halloween event; a Thanksgiving Meetinghouse Merry Meeting on Nov. 19 from 1-3; and involvement with Light Up Your Night in December. Ms. Phillips will pursue permission regarding use of alcohol.

Any Other Business:

Facebook page – Ms. Allyn said she put the information on the Committee's page of the Town website. Mr. Bickford said he would attempt to create a link.

Rotary Home Show – Ms. Phillips said there is no cost for non-profits to have a table at the show in April. She said she would man it, but would appreciate being spelled for a while.

Motion by Ellen Phillips to have the Committee participate in the Alton Rotary Home Show; second by Jon Mouradian. The motion carried unanimously.

Tracking Hours – Ms. Allyn asked everyone to be judicious in tracking volunteer hours, as she will need the information for the LCHIP grant application.

Cost estimates – Mr. Mouradian said he mailed off the letter to the company last week.

Feasibility Study – The matter was tabled until the next meeting.

Schedule Next Meeting – The Committee scheduled its next meeting for March 23, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the Community Room.

Adjournment:

Motion by Robert Bickford at 7:51 p.m. to adjourn; second by Clayton Randall. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Allyn