

1772 MEETINGHOUSE RESTORATION COMMITTEE
MEETING
Sept. 8, 2021 7:00 p.m.
1772 Meetinghouse 207 Old Bay Rd. New Durham, NH
and
remotely by: [Meet.google.com/giq-vuya-xsh](https://meet.google.com/giq-vuya-xsh)

Members attending: Cathy Allyn, Bob Bickford, Jon Mouradian, and Clayton Randall

Attending remotely: Robin Bickford and Heather Freeman (Due to a technical glitch, neither Mrs. Bickford nor Ms. Freeman could not be heard during the course of the meeting. Ms. Freeman posted comments in the chat, which are included in the appropriate sections of discussion in parentheses. Ms. Freeman left the meeting following the discussion of the Memorial Service).

Others attending: Ellen Phillips

Call to Order: Chairperson Cathy Allyn called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Jon Mouradian to approve the minutes of July 28, 2021, as written; second by Clayton Randall. The motion carried unanimously.

Updates:

New Hampshire Preservation Alliance: The Committee discussed the possibility of a feasibility study. Bob Bickford said it would be good to have architectural drawings, in addition to the timber frame pictures we now have. Ms. Allyn said a Zoom meeting has been scheduled with NHPA and PlaceWork to try to work out a lower cost. She will forward the link to members who would like to attend with her.

(Ms. Freeman noted she had concerns with the scope of the project, especially with the number of conferences. She asked if the proposal included the additional building or just the existing structure. She said the architectural firm would not use someone else's drawings or assessments. She suggested reducing the cost by focusing on the main building and to not include drawing up plans for the support building, and limiting the back and forth conferences.)

Hole in Roof: Mr. Randall said he and George Gale were present when the two tarps were placed. He said the boards are in good shape. Mr. Bickford said a company came to look at the roof and quoted \$12,000. Although he had provided documentation of exactly what he wanted (temporary roof), they did not quote for what he'd requested.

Ms. Allyn said LCHIP suggested repairing the holes. Mr. Randall said repairs leak and surrounding shingles disintegrate when stepped on. Mr. Bickford said we can replace failing tarps with others.

Committee Charge: Members were unclear regarding the material sent from Town Hall. Additions seemed to have been placed in the Charge, some of which did not pertain to the section they were now in. One theory was that the BOS had changed the Charge and not notified the Committee, although there were no signatures of a more recent Board in evidence to indicate that. A member suggested checking the BOS minutes to see if something along those lines had occurred. Ms. Allyn said the Committee should just move forward, since now we have fundraisers planned, and that seemed to be the main concern of the BOS.

Memorial Service: A New Durham resident attended the Open House and decided she would like to have a memorial service for her daughter here. Ms. Allyn has been in contact with the woman; she said, although an affordable place that residents can use is what the Committee wants for the community, the Town needs to be involved in this instance because of the number of possible attendees and scope of the event. The Committee was in favor of allowing the service. Ellen Phillips said she would get a copy of a town's rental agreement, probably Alton's, to use as a template.

(Ms. Freeman did not believe allowing the service was a good idea at this point in time. She said the Town would have liability issues involved with such usage, and would need an agreement. She stated the type of agreement necessary is beyond the scope of the advisory committee.)

Clothing Shed: The latest check was for \$143, bringing us to an approximate total of \$550. Mr. Randall said he would continue to pick up the clothes in Farmington.

New Durham Day: Mr. Mouradian said he had visitors who drove down from Alton to see the murals.

Moving Forward:

Budget: The Committee discussed the requested amounts in the 2022 budget. Mr. Bickford will present to the BOS. Ms. Freeman sent proposed changes and comments to the Budget Narrative that Ms. Allyn can incorporate. Ms. Phillips said her research indicated that the BOS in 1892 budgeted \$200 for repairs to the building, which amounts to \$5,880 in today's dollars. She remarked on the people of that time putting that kind of money into the Meetinghouse.

Fundraisers: Ms. Phillips brought up several ideas. She said she was willing to be present at regular Saturday Open Houses twice a month. She said the Committee's displays could be mounted permanently, hand-out materials could be provided, and she was willing to ask for donations. She suggested a newsletter four times a year that included some history, what the Committee is planning, and how much we need to accomplish the various phases of work. Along with that idea, "thermometers" could be installed at the Meetinghouse and the clothing shed, indicating how much money we have and how much we need. She said next year is the building's 250th anniversary, which would be a good time for a major fundraiser. She suggested making Meetinghouse notecards to be sold at the Christmas Craft Fair in November. Mr. Mouradian said he would check on the prices.

Ms. Allyn said she would speak to the individual who often supplies items and artifacts to be used in displays for the Saturday Open Houses.

Select Board: Ms. Allyn will email a request for the BOS to meet with Brandee Laughlin, state coordinator of National Parks Service Historical Preservation Grants, regarding setting up a Certified Local Government program.

Adjournment:

Motion by Mr. Bickford at 8:59 to adjourn; second by Mr. Randall. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy L. Allyn