

1772 MEETINGHOUSE RESTORATION COMMITTEE  
MEETING

April 13, 2022 7:00 p.m.

New Durham Community Room Main St. New Durham, NH

Members attending: Cathy Allyn, Robert Bickford, Robin Bickford, Jon Mouradian, and Clayton Randall (Ellen Phillips entered at 7:07 pm)

Absent: (excused) Heather Freeman

Others attending: Tom Baker, Mark McFadden

*Call to Order:* Chairperson Cathy Allyn called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

*Approval of Minutes:*

**Motion by Jon Mouradian to approve the minutes of March 22, 2022, as written; second by Robin Bickford. The motion carried unanimously.**

Updates:

*Brochures:* Ms. Allyn provided about 100 brochures.

*Cost Estimates:* Ms. Allyn reported the NHPA provided her with several names to contact. Clayton Randall said he called Preservation Timber Framing and they will do the cost estimates. Ms. Allyn said she needed them by early May, as Letters of Intent for grant applications are due then. Mr. Randall said he would inform the contractor.

*Fundraising:* A picture of Jon Mouradian and the amount of money on the thermometer banner appeared on the front page of the Baysider. Ms. Allyn asked if the Committee wanted information on the commemorative stones to go up on Facebook; Mr. Mouradian said it would be a good idea. Ms. Bickford suggested an article in the newspaper.

*Tables and Chairs:* Wooden tables from the Alton Centennial Rotary Club are stored at the Meetinghouse and a private home; about 40 metal folding chairs on a dolly are at the Meetinghouse, thanks to use of a truck owned by volunteers. Ms. Allyn said she checked with TA Zoltko about selling the wooden chairs on site, but was told monies from sale of Town property usually go into the General Fund, so could not be used as a fundraiser.

*Onsite Meeting with Fire Chief and Building Inspector:* Mr. Mouradian, Mr. Randall, and Ms. Allyn were present. Power was turned off at the pole, but may be used for events. Events can continue since there are no large assemblies. Mr. Randall said he removed the electric candles and put in his personal battery-operated ones. Mr.

McFadden and Mr. Baker said they would buy battery-operated candles for the windows.

*Financial Report:* Ellen Phillips said there is \$9,341.49 in the non-lapsing account, \$72,966.71 in the CRF, and a March check of \$178.23 from the clothing shed for a total of \$82,486.44.

*NHPA:* Ms. Allyn said Nicole Flynn said we could write up a detailed report of conditions since the 2012 assessment for LCHIP, if we did not want to pursue the Reuse/Feasibility Study now in order to keep all of the money possible in the CRF. Ms. Allyn will do so.

Moving Forward –

*April Events:* A Meetinghouse Retrospective is scheduled for April 14 for the Historical Society. Meet Early Settlers: NDS staff member Marion Martens will be Col. Thomas Tash, two of her former students will portray John Bennett and Shadrach Allard, and David Allyn will be Rev. Nathaniel Porter. Meetinghouse Time Travel: Ms. Allyn will perform the woman who morphs into her ancestors inside of the Meetinghouse, with Mark McFadden as the guard. Mock Town Meeting: Mr. Allyn will lead the meeting as Selectman Thomas Young and the audience will participate. Restoration Project: Bob Bickford will present the PowerPoint program. Ms. Phillips will make cookies, and she and Ms. Allyn will provide display items.

Ms. Phillips will check about borrowing chairs and Mr. Bickford will pick up 10 of them on his way to the presentation. Ms. Phillips said she asked about selling our notecards at the event, but was told we could not.

Sponsoring a table at the Rotary's Home and Garden Show on April 23: Ms. Phillips and Mr. McFadden and Mr. Baker will set up and man the table. Ms. Allyn said she will be there at some point to give them a break. Mr. Mouradian has placed the order for the table runner.

*Grants:* Ms. Allyn will attend the mandatory LCHIP webinar. She will be applying for a Moose Plate Grant and an LCHIP Grant, along with a request to another funding agency.

*Meeting with BOS:* Ms. Allyn reported that the public hearing to switch the non-lapsing savings account to a non-lapsing checking account will be on April 21, 2022. Not all members are able to attend. She said she has not yet been answered if the other issues to be discussed with the Select Board will be brought up at that meeting. Ms. Phillips said future BOS meetings will be on Thursdays; Mr. Mouradian is unable to make Thursday evening meetings.

Any Other Business:

*Terms:* The Town Clerk has advised reinstatement.

*Merrymeeting Lake Association:* Ms. Allyn said she sent a list of Meetinghouse events to the person who handles the website, but has been unable to receive an answer about listing them on the newsletter.

*Certified Local Government:* Ms. Allyn said she received a reply from TA Zoltko indicating she felt more information needed to be gathered before presenting anything to this new Board. Ms. Allyn suggested to the Committee that we simply get the boilerplate language from the state and present the Board with a completed package. She said she did not have time to do this, due to all of the grant applications.

*July 23 Art Show:* Ms. Allyn said it was the date of the Merrymeeting Lake Boat Parade. Ms. Bickford said she would call to find out what time the parade is.

*Storywalk:* Ms. Allyn said it appears the library will re-install its Storywalk along the trail.

*Google Website:* Mr. Bickford said he would look into creating a website.

*Portapotty:* Ms. Allyn said it is a hindrance to tell Art Show exhibitors they are expected to be on site for three-four hours, but there are no facilities for them. She said people have asked at other events if there is a bathroom. She said she asked the Recreation Director about having a portapotty at Meetinghouse Park. The Director indicated she did not have money in her budget for one. She forwarded the email to TA Zoltko, who wrote the Director back asking if the Committee could fundraise for a portapotty. Ms. Allyn said it was a public park, used by residents throughout the year, and she did not feel having facilities there was the Committee's responsibility.

*Craft:* Ms. Allyn said she had determined the craft for the May 14 event and asked for a couple of potatoes and hard berries.

*Schedule Next Meeting* – The Committee scheduled its next meeting for May 11, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the Community Room.

*Adjournment:*

**Motion by Bob Bickford at 8:07 p.m. to adjourn; second by Jon Mouradian. The motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,  
*Cathy Allyn*