

Minutes of Meeting Town Hall Preservation Committee January 24, 2011

Present: Dave Ross, James Walter, Joanne McHugh, Kathie Northrup. Excused: Dan Pike, Russ Pelletier. Absent: Nancy Van Scoy.

Meeting began at 6:40 p.m. at the Hooksett Public Library.

Joanne moved to accept the minutes of 1/10/11; Jim seconded. Unanimously approved.

Kathie advised that she has been working on reconstructing prior minutes. She also has furnished the group's information for inclusion on the new website.

Discussed briefly Kathie's membership status on the committee. Both the Historical Society and the Heritage Commission were asked by the prior chair to send a representative to the committee. Kathie responded on behalf of the Heritage Commission.

Dave presented the warrant article he had gotten from the Town Administrator. It needed some rewriting. The group reviewed the draft and made changes. As redrafted:

Shall the Town vote to authorize the Town Council to accept privately donated gifts, legacies and devises which shall be invested and accounted for separately from and not commingled with other town funds and shall be subject to the custody and investment provisions applicable to trust funds accepted under RSA 31:19. Majority vote is required.

Note: This would allow the Town Council to establish expendable trust funds for donations without having to ask the voters each time. Such donations can only be utilized for the purposes for which they were given.

Jim moved to adopt the article as rewritten. Joanne seconded. Unanimously approved.

Dave will try to present the article at this Wednesday night's Council meeting during public input.

In Dave's discussion with Carol, she advised that we would need an appraisal on the building. Dave will ask the Council if the town assessor could do the appraisal.

No further information about the deed issue was available. [See minutes of 11/22/10 where the group summarized the options as: 1) do nothing; 2) remove the "town hall only" purpose as outlined in B. Stadtmiller's email of 8/17/10; or 3) take the matter to Probate Court as was first discussed by the Economic Development Committee early on. We agreed we had enough info on 1 and 2 but were not sure what would be involved in the Probate Court route, was there a cost involved, are there any advantages to going this way over 2, etc. Kathie emailed B. Stadtmiller

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for information but no answer was forthcoming. The matter was later referred to Carol as Barbara has completed her term with the town.] Kathie will call the chair of the EDC to get his recollection on the Probate route.

The group briefly discussed future plans, details to support our recommendation, etc.

Our next meeting is Monday, February 14, as scheduled. Joanne and Nancy have advised that they will not be available and are excused.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Kathleen Northrup Ex Officio Member January 26, 2011