

TOWN HALL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
TOWN OF HOOKSETT



MINUTES OF MEETING
February 25, 2013

Members present: Jim Sullivan, Kathie Northrup, Tom Walsh. Excused: John Danforth
Also present: Dean Shankle. Guest: Maggie Stier, NH Preservation Alliance (NHPA).

Meeting called to order at 6:05 p.m. in council chambers. In the absence of the chair, Jim started the meeting.

Kathie moved acceptance of the 2/4/13 minutes; Tom seconded. Jim abstained. Unanimously approved.

Members brought Maggie up to date on discussions at our last meeting regarding removal/demo of second floor partitions by Department of Public Works, starting as time allows. This would basically be taking down drywall to see what's under it.

Maggie outlined a couple of grant possibilities:

1. LCHIP, matching, no grant round yet announced
2. NHPA, Assessment Grant Program, maximum \$4,500, 50% match, for one or more consultants (e.g., engineer and architect), rolling grant rounds, committee meets monthly. http://www.nhpreservation.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=17:for-community-landmarks&catid=3:get-answers&Itemid=138

We must list the project on the LCHIP Register as a prerequisite for any future application.

The building is also eligible for a Moose Plate grant based on its listing on the State Register, but this year's round closes 4/26/13 so we probably would not have a timely proposal.

Maggie advises that under the Secretary of Interior's standards, our project would be classified as "rehabilitation" as opposed to restoration for example. Rehabilitation preserves the character of the structure but makes it appropriate for reuse. See page 2 for standards. Also http://www.nps.gov/hps/tps/standguide/rehab/rehab_standards.htm

She suggests we apply for the NHPA grant, perhaps for an engineer and architect, before we do any demo work as it may impact matching contribution on any future grant applications. We should also contact Division of Historical Resources (DHR) and LCHIP for guidance.

Maggie will send list of possible candidates.

Group consensus was to follow Maggie's recommendation and pursue the grant before any demo work. Kathie will contact DHR to try to set up a visit to Hooksett.

Also discussed the holding of a Plan NH Community Design charrette. This would address an area rather than a specific building. For info see: <http://plannh.org/why-does-plan-nh-do-this>. Plan NH asks the questions: Is there an area in your town where you see great potential but don't know where to begin? Or, is there a need in your town for a new plan to make your town center or

a special neighborhood THE place where people want to go? The process includes not only residents but experts in the appropriate fields, i.e., planners, architects, contractors, various engineers, marketing/design, etc. This would cost about \$5,000. It is a competitive process.

Next meeting to be determined after visit by DHR representative.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Kathleen Northrup, Member
February 27, 2013

Next meeting - To be Determined

Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties

The Standards are neither technical nor prescriptive but are intended to promote responsible preservation practices that help protect our Nation's irreplaceable cultural resources. For example, they cannot, in and of themselves, be used to make essential decisions about which features of the historic building should be saved and which can be changed. But once a treatment is selected, the Standards provide philosophical consistency to the work.

The four treatment approaches are Preservation, Rehabilitation, Restoration, and Reconstruction, outlined below in hierarchical order and explained:

The first treatment, **Preservation**, places a high premium on the retention of all historic fabric through conservation, maintenance and repair. It reflects a building's continuum over time, through successive occupancies, and the respectful changes and alterations that are made.

Rehabilitation, the second treatment, emphasizes the retention and repair of historic materials, but more latitude is provided for replacement because it is assumed the property is more deteriorated prior to work. (Both Preservation and Rehabilitation standards focus attention on the preservation of those materials, features, finishes, spaces, and spatial relationships that, together, give a property its historic character.)

Restoration, the third treatment, focuses on the retention of materials from the most significant time in a property's history, while permitting the removal of materials from other periods.

Reconstruction, the fourth treatment, establishes limited opportunities to re-create a non-surviving site, landscape, building, structure, or object in all new materials.