

TOWN HALL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
TOWN OF HOOKSETT



MINUTES OF MEETING
April 18, 2013

Members present: Jim Sullivan, Kathie Northrup, Tom Walsh. Absent: John Danforth
Also present: Katie Rosengren for Admin.

Meeting called to order at 5:00 p.m. at the library.

As John Danforth has left the council, Jim offered himself as chair of this committee. Tom made a motion to elect Jim as chair; Kathie seconded. Unanimously approved.

Tom moved acceptance of the 2/25/13 minutes; seconded. Unanimously approved.
Meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Reviewed results of meeting with Peter Michaud from Division of Historical Resources on 3/7/13. Peter thought it was okay to go ahead with careful removal of interior wallboard on the second floor to allow any consultant we may get to see what's there. He didn't see much of historical significance in the "modern" office layout. He agrees we should proceed with the assessment grant application from NHPA. Jim advised that the up to \$4,500 required match could come from the building maintenance line.

Katie will follow up to get a list of code problems still remaining if the second floor is to be removed.

Katie will check with Dr. Shankle about the grant application, i.e., who will write, what is necessary, etc.

DPW will be working on the barrier-free access to the Prescott which ties in with secondary access to the town hall building.

Tom offered to put together a scope of work list, and the group agreed to take him up on his offer. He will contact Leo/Matt for access.

Discussed possible funding. Tom has been thinking about private sources; he will work on a list. Also talked about other fund-raisers: engraved bricks, pen and ink sketches/collages. Moose Plate grant and LCHIP are also possibilities.

Next steps: grant application preparation, interior "taking apart," Tom's scope of work list, construction of Prescott ramp.

Discussed possible uses. Attached is compilation of results of surveys taken at Old Home Day in 2010. Group will discuss future uses at a future meeting.

Kathleen Northrup, Member
April 19, 2013

Next meeting - Wednesday, May 8, 5:00 p.m., town offices

**OLD HOME DAY
SURVEYS COMPLETED - 86**

	YES	NO	No answer	Other/comments¹
Should the Town Hall at 16 Main Street remain a Town-owned property?	62	7	15	unsure no—with restrictions
Do you support maintaining the property as is or restoring the main hall?	31 PRESERVE	43 RESTORE	7	not applicable (wants to sell it) combination ? depending on \$ maybe yes, restore to functional use restore w/money from rent should be restored to original function
Would you be willing to donate financially to help restore the Town Hall?	33	37	13	yes thru fund-raising depends yes if a senior center yes, a little yes, a small amount
Do you support the Town using public funds to restore the Town Hall?	59	16	6	maybe yes, % of funds like a match maybe maybe ? No, not at this time
Would you be willing to volunteer your time to help restore the Town Hall?	40	37	8	depending on project yes, depends for fund-raising

¹If the survey had a “yes, but (comment)” or “no but (comment)” they were counted under “yes” or “no.” If there was just a comment, it is listed but not counted as a “yes” or “no.”

Do you have a suggestion for how the Town Hall should be used in the future?

Community activities

community

town events

meeting/community center

community center for the town and organizations. Non-profit organizations should be able to use
for free, others should pay a fee

town functions

Community classes and meetings

for meetings

community center (2)

community meetings, town business

community events

public and civic organizations

community center/museum

as a gathering place

functions

small functions

rent

rent for functions

renting out to small groups for functions

should be useful as resident use for functions at low cost

rent for resd (resident?) events

rent spaces

restore and rent space to professionals

rent out the addition for profit—leaving hall the hall (meetings, weddings)

Rent office spaces, use as community center

half town use (museum?) and half commercial space

town use and small business

possible mixed use w/private business

town center, education, tutoring, special education events, art classes

education tool for our children

heritage museum, fallen heroes memorial

museum

preserved and restored for posterity

historical

remain antique

expand Prescott Library

historical building to house town documents

historical reasons

theater

Do you have a suggestion for how the Town Hall should be used in the future? (Continued)

business center or condos

commercial/residential for use in school

get rid of 2nd floor! Make it a “hall” once again.

will listen (I think this is what it said, couldn't read handwriting)

senior center (2), a place for all us oldies to go

youth center

rec center

not at this time, not yet

stop building new buildings, use what we have

move town employees back in and use the school to increase all day kindergarten program (but answered “no” on town owned)

send it back to owners

sell it!! We need the money!

sell it for commercial use

Professional support will be needed to preserve and maintain the Town Hall. Do you have a skill that you would be willing to donate to help preserve or maintain the Hooksett Town Hall?

I'm a nurse

town (can't read handwriting)--publicity

I can use a hammer

painting, labor, cleaning, etc.

laborer/general labor (5)

drywall

own a construction company

I can paint

clean up, painting

skilled carpenter

Comments:

Can be saved without taxes

I'd like to see an area of historical destination