

TOWN HALL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
TOWN OF HOOKSETT



MINUTES OF MEETING
November 17, 2014

Members present: Kathie Northrup, Jim Sullivan. Absent: Tom Walsh. Staff present: Katie Rosengren, Leo Lessard, Matt Lavoie. C. Kennedy and A. Lornitzo from UK Architects (UKA), M. Bruss, cost estimator, on the phone.

Meeting called to order at 11 a.m. in council chambers to review revised schematics online and conduct other business.

The committee had not had a chance to review the drawings prior to the meeting so we first saw them when presented online.

Option D is the result of a compilation of prior design options/discussions. Minutes by UK of 11/3 and 11/17 meetings detail the highlights discussed.

Option E included a larger stage area and a green room with the kitchen placed in the vault area.

Around noon, Chris, Adam, and Michael signed off. They will send hard copies of the drawings. Once we've had a chance to review them, we'll send comments. Another meeting will then be scheduled.

REGULAR MEETING

Acceptance of minutes of meeting 11/3/14 moved by Jim, seconded by Kathie. Unanimously approved.

PUBLIC INPUT None

COMMUNICATIONS, CORRESPONDENCE AND MISCELLANEOUS:

1. In preparation for public presentation, should we call potential users? Kiwanis, Lions, Chamber of Commerce, etc.? Might they meet there, would they have a holiday party there, would a business do a training program there. Dance schools for recitals. Kathie will make some calls.
2. Should we look at <https://www.justgive.org/index.jsp>, www.fundly.com or similar to raise funds? Katie will explore various sites.
3. Discussed attendance of members and under which rules we operate.
4. We have the opportunity to stockpile some used bricks from the Prescott Inn. Donation would have to be accepted by council. Kathie will follow up and bring a few samples to Leo.
5. Publicity—"Preservation Architects Begin Work" article and photo were in this week's Banner.

REVIEW ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Jim, follow up re Fairpoint. Jim will provide name of contact to Matt.
2. Kathie, follow up signing of "agreement." Katie has discussed with Adam from UK. He will get back to her.

NEW BUSINESS:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

Funding/Fund Raising

In prior discussions, we had questioned reinvestment of proceeds from sale of scrap materials. Katie had found it was not permissible to transfer those funds in that manner, even with permission of council, but finance advised that a warrant article could be fashioned which would allow it. -- We'll include this in future discussions about funding. Possibilities previously discussed: wire, elevator, fire escape.

Deconstruction

No progress.

Architect

Katie found reference in 1929 town report of expenditures for "steel ceiling" and other labor and materials during 1928.

Second invoice covering 10/13/14-11/9/14 has been submitted in the amount of \$2,559.35

Members did not like the Option E layout with the kitchen in the vault and the "green room."

Kathie updated the group on her trip to Alumni Hall in Haverhill, NH, on 11/12/14. Members had been referred to their website for review. Got some input from the woman who does booking, etc. Good observations about layout. We are lucky to have the storage and reception space we have. They have an exterior ramp for access; no handicap access to the stage. They do not have a kitchen. Because of the size of their stage, they do not offer "productions." They do individuals (comedians, musicians) or very small groups. There are not rooms on the sides of the stage; curtains divide areas. The hall was not set up so no observations about furniture and setup. They do offer art and other classes. Their website says: Alumni Hall makes a beautiful venue for weddings, anniversary and birthday parties, conferences, reunions, business events and more! There are larger venues in the geographic area which accommodate larger productions.

Kathie expressed concerns about the size of our stage (very small) if we try to replicate to match the original. Size of stage related to what can be accommodated related to capacity of audience space.

Discussed again possible uses. Katie will check on regulations for liquor at events. That will certainly be a draw for us if we can offer that--small cocktail reception before an event, liquor service for a dinner, etc.

Kathie suggested public information session after we get final drawings. We'd probably schedule that in the new year.

Talked about items we'd need to occupy the building: bathrooms, life/safety items, heat/air, electricity, etc.

Decided we'd be able to further discuss phasing the project once we get some cost information.

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ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Katie, follow up signing of “agreement”
2. Jim, provide Matt with Fairpoint contact name; Matt, call Fairpoint
3. Kathie, calls re users and to other venues. Possibly another road trip.
4. Katie, explore fund-raising sites
5. Katie, check on regulations for liquor

Meeting adjourned 1 p.m.

Kathleen Northrup, Chair
November 30, 2014

NEXT MEETING - PENDING DATE AND TIME