

1772 Meetinghouse Restoration Committee

Meeting

August 29, 2012

New Durham Public Library

7:00 pm

Members present: Cathy Allyn, Ann Kelley

Others present: George Gale

Chair Cathy Allyn called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Approval of Minutes – Motion by Ann Kelley to approve the minutes of August 23, 2012, as amended; second by Cathy. 2-0.

Arron Sturgis Visit – Cathy and George Gale were enthusiastic and positive regarding the site visit with timber framer Arron Sturgis, and his colleagues Jessica and Reese. Arron verified that the building is out of kilter and needs to be leveled; and that the roof is failing in several ways.

The committee discussed the evident sag. George said that when the building was cut down in 1838, the integrity was destroyed due to the braces being cut out.

He said that it is now apparent that the plaster and lathe were installed in 1848, when the sag was already present, due to the lack of braces. He said he and Arron agreed that the best way to repair the scarf joints is to use a crane to pluck out the roof truss. The joints can then be repaired on a workbench. Arron has a tent to cover the building while the roof is off.

During that repair, Arron can screw strips of plywood into the lathe to take it down in sections, and then put the sections back up. He is putting together a quote for the committee. George said the assessment will prove highly beneficial and productive because a timber framer performed the measuring.

Cathy said she was pleased to see how impressed Arron and his crew were with the site, including the Pound, graveyard, trail, and vernal pool. They voiced their appreciation of what a rare thing the town had and praised highly the work of the volunteers of the 1980s.

Budget Committee and former Selectman Dean Stimpson dropped by and Cathy

showed him around the inside of the Meetinghouse.

LCHIP Grant – The committee discussed what aspects of an application appealed to LCHIP. Answers and details on the application were discussed and divvied up. The deadline is September 7, 2012. George said he would drive the application copies to Concord.

Adjournment – Motion by Ann at 8:35 p.m.; second by Cathy. 2-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Allyn