

1772 Meetinghouse Restoration Committee

Meeting

April 24, 2013

New Durham Public Library

7:00 pm

Members present: Cathy Allyn, Patty Tollner

Others present: Consultant Mark Foynes, Consultant George Gale, Scott Drummey

Call to Order

Chair Cathy Allyn called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of March 6, 2013 were tabled.

Old Business

Fund raising – Cathy reported on the concessions fundraiser at Sunday Bingo, saying she was pleased with the result, and that those who worked it discussed methods of making it easier on the volunteers and more profitable. Major thanks all around to Patty Tollner, who donated all the supplies and much of the food.

Membership – Cathy said Ann Kelley did not wish to officially resign from the committee, due to her high interest. She said Ann would be able to attend meetings only sporadically, but still wanted to help.

New Business

Foundation work – George Gale said he had not yet had time to work on the specifications. He said he wanted to do the specs for the full scope of work, including the roof work as that would produce superior accountability by using only one contractor. Patty agreed with laying out the full project, which could be funded in degrees. She said George would be considered the Construction Manager for the project.

George explained that the structural repair would be a Timber Framers' Guild educational project, and he said he might make a trip over to speak with the director again. Patty said we should run over our expectations with the Guild, and meet with the director to maintain his enthusiasm. She suggested holding a reception for Guild members in the area and having them tour the Meetinghouse.

Mark Foynes asked if we could create a power point presentation for the Guild. He asked about the process with the Guild. George said we had to provide an on-site manager. He said there would probably be four timber framers on the project, and the larger group of workers would be made up of people with varying degrees of experience. He said we had to feed and house them.

Patty suggested using Birch Hill Camp for lodging. Cathy brought up that we don't want to lose the momentum we've achieved.

Scott Drummey asked about the scope of the foundation work. George told him that a frost free foundation was needed, along with leveling and bracing. Cathy said she would ask Jeremy if the committee needed to run the specs by the Board of Selectmen before we go out to bid. George said there would be a short list of

qualified people.

Scott asked if the committee had considered using Steve Bedard, since he did the Historic Structures Report. George said Mr. Bedard is more of a consultant, and is not a timber framer. Mark pointed out that the bid process may push back the project. George said LCHIP would help with the bid process. Mark expressed concern over receiving bids from unqualified contractors. George said the grant agreement notes adherence to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards regarding historical buildings. He said he would write up the performance standards.

George told the committee he would need a month to put the specs together. He added that he would send the Guild's guidelines to everyone. He said Arron Sturgis has agreed to be the main timber framer on the roof work. He said it was unknown at this point if other qualified reconstruction contractors were Guild members. He said using the Guild was important because the roof needs to be swung off to save money and do the job properly.

Scott said he spoke with Kevin Fife, who told him there wasn't enough money to level the Meetinghouse when he did the stonework several years ago. George said that work was cosmetic, and the original materials were not used.

Workshop – The consensus was to notify Maggie Stier of the NH Preservation Alliance that we would like to have a joint workshop with the Union and Moultonborough Seven to Save groups, per her suggestion. Cathy is to let her know.

George said he thought tours are a lot of work with little payoff. He suggested an Open House as providing more bang for the buck, citing the success of last year's Open House in conjunction with Celebrate New Durham Day. He said he spoke to Maggie about having a statewide day once a year when all historical buildings are open.

Trust Fund – George said he was researching setting up a trust fund for private donations for work specific to the Meetinghouse.

Adjournment

Motion by Patty at 8:10 p.m. to adjourn; second by Cathy. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Allyn