

Friends of Epsom's Historic Meetinghouse
April 26, 2011

The committee met at the Epsom Public Library at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Dick Frambach, Penny Graham, Bruce Graham, Sharon Burnston

Reports:

- Minutes from the 1/20/11 meeting were reviewed and accepted with minor changes to the wording of Sharon's comment about who should be involved in determining possible uses of the meetinghouse.

Fire Codes:

- Dick reported that Don Harty, George Carlson, and Matt Moulton will be meeting on Friday, April 29th, to discuss the fire codes for the meetinghouse.
- Don has volunteered to contact engineering students at UNH to do an engineering study of the structure in order to earn college credit.

Site Work:

- The Board of Selectmen has requested a detailed description of the proposed site work that would include removal of dirt piles, grading of slopes, and perimeter drainage pipes.
- Several local individuals have volunteered to donate their time and equipment on the condition that the cost of fuel is covered.
- The description needs to include estimated fuel requirements before the selectmen release any funds.

Proposed Uses of the Meetinghouse:

- Dick showed photos of two other towns' old meetinghouses that were converted into town offices/community centers.
- Conceptual drawings of layouts for the lower level were completed in the past.
- A site plan was prepared previously.

Informational Meeting with the Public:

- Dick suggested that letters and informational flyers should be written and distributed to the public.
- The results of Friday's meeting with the Fire Department should be included.

Fund Raising:

- Ideas for raising money during Old Home Day were discussed.
- A raffle would require individuals to help gather donated items and sell tickets.
- A silent auction would need more publicity and prior organization.
- Committed individuals are needed to help with fund raising.

Petition:

- Sharon Burnston suggested a petition to collect signatures in support of building town offices in the lower level.

Goals:

- Sharon suggested the following goals:
 1. Finish the upper level so that it is functional for public use.
 2. Complete site work and drainage to show visible progress.
 3. Long-term goal of finding a use for the lower level and completing it.

Next Meeting:

- The next meeting was scheduled for May 17th at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Penny Graham