

Old Meeting House Revitalization Committee (OMHRC) Meeting

March 7, 2019

6:00 PM

Epsom Public Library

DRAFT

Present: Deb Sargent, Val Long, Chuck Driesbach, Virginia Drew, Cheryl Gilpatrick, Meadow Wysocki

I. Review and Adoption of 2/20/19 Minutes

Cheryl made a motion, and Virginia seconded acceptance of the 2/20/19 minutes as amended. The Committee unanimously voted to accept amended minutes. Val will send the amended minutes out to the committee and to Virginia to post.

II. OMHRC Communications

Keys: Deb asked that if OMH tours need to be given, please try to give more notice for it to be scheduled and the key to be exchanged. Check with Deb for keys first, and then Chuck. Val has scheduled to have the stained glass person look at the window for April 11th at 2 PM for the process of getting an estimate for repair. The Committee continued the discussion regarding the stain glass windows to clarify the subject.

The Committee discussed the issue of understanding among the Committee members for everyone who is gathering preliminary information for fundraising and other items, such as pursuing grants. This would be helpful so that we can make informed decisions at each meeting with information already gathered. At what points in the progress do we need to bring it to the Selectmen? This will be decided with the development of each item as to when we will go to the BOS with the info. Val will present the draft of the Moose Plate Grant on the 11th to the BOS. The proposal is due in June, but the Letter of Intent is due May 3rd.

The Committee discussed adding a statement of reflection to the minutes about the community's desire to not use tax money to revitalize the OMH. Chuck motioned to have Cheryl and Meadow to develop a short mission statement for the minutes. Meadow seconded. All agreed - unanimous vote to accept.

The Committee discussed making sure that all members of the Committee have seen, reviewed and approved anything that needs to go to the Selectmen before it is dropped off to Nancy. Also need to make sure we with Nancy Wheeler about some items if necessary before they go before the BOS.

III. Fundraising and Grant Update

Fundraising: Virginia reviewed the possibility of Stephen Arling doing a video of the OMH to help promote it. Using still footage in video form he has offered to help us create a tour/promo video. He is interested in donating the time and equipment to do this. Virginia also has many pictures she took of the building as it progresses that we could use in the future.

Grants: Val reviewed the Town of Washington, NH revitalization of their meeting house. A loan was obtained by the Town from Lake Sunapee Bank to revitalize the building (lower interest). The loan included extra money so that they could use that money to pay the monthly payment. The loan was subsidized with continued fundraising. We will have some committee members visit Washington, NH to understand how they did this to see if it is a possible option. There is a question as to whether this needs to be a warrant article for the Town of Washington, if that was necessary. Chuck made a recommendation to have some of us arrange to go. Val will coordinate a road trip to check into and get more information. The Recommendation was accepted by all.

Moose Plate Grant: The Committee reviewed the draft of the Grant application developed by Val. Chuck made a suggestion to adjust the wording for the name and formerly-known-as. Val will update with revisions and email to the Committee. She will also present it to the BOS on the 11th.

IV. Business Donation Letter

Cheryl reviewed the three choices for letterhead for the business letter. Suggestions were made to revise to add a more prominent title for the OMHRC so it is clear that it is from the Committee. Several options were suggested and also a note was made to add/keep the re: line in the letter. Cheryl will revise and send to the Committee for review. Once a final decision is made Cheryl will give to Nancy for the BOS for Monday vote. Cheryl will present to the BOS on March 11th.

V. Charter and Strategic Discussion

Charter: Revising the Charter will be revisited after the Election for possible rewording to better reflect the intent of the OMHRC.

Strategic Plan: The Committee discussed whether the Strategic Plan should be one year or include additional years. Meadow pointed out that without a more definitive plan on what will happen in the first year, and when each item will happen, she suggested it stay as a one year. All members agreed. Val will put the finishing touches on the plan and we will discuss at our next meeting.

VI. March 12th Voting Update - Booth for OMHRC

Board: Cheryl is updating the display board with new pictures. She presented the ideas of the new banner and what should be on it. She will get everything ready as decided and have it ready for voting day.

Donation Buckets: Hand held or one for table. The Committee discussed the various ideas of having a donation bucket. The main concern was access to the bucket. It was decided we would have two; one on the table and one to be hand held. Cheryl will finish putting them together.

Printing Brochures: Cheryl is printing new brochures – with the new wording now that we have moved on to the next phase beyond the survey and informational sessions, etc. The new wording was read to the Committee and all were in agreement that it will suffice for the Voting. Cheryl will print black and white ones for the table at voting. Colored ones will be printed at some point.

Postcards: Cheryl passed out a sample of the postcards to be handed out at voting. These were previously reviewed via email, with everyone's input, and final approval was made. Cheryl will print more. Cheryl also handed out the pre-draft sample of the ones to be mailed and those will need many changes once we decide what will be on the back for fundraising or information.

VII. Other

The Committee discussed the tracking of materials and time we use to do our work. Paper, ink, time, and other materials should be kept track of per Nancy at the Town office. Virginia will discuss this with Nancy so we have a better idea of what they would like to be included and how this should be tracked.

The Committee also discussed the perception the Epsom residents may get of Committee members and that we should be aware that we represent the Committee when we are discussing various issues throughout town. We may not be representing the Committee in the moment but our actions reflect possible interactions with people in the future.

The next meeting of OMHRC is March 20th at 6 PM at the Library.

Chuck motioned to adjourn the meeting and Val seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Gilpatrick
Committee Member