

**Old Meeting House Revitalization Committee (OMHRC) Meeting**  
**March 20, 2019**  
**6:00 PM**  
**Epsom Public Library**  
**FINAL**

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

**Absent:** Virginia Drew

**I. Review and Adoption of 3/7/19 Minutes**

Val made a motion and Meadow seconded acceptance of the 3/7/19 minutes as amended. Cheryl will update and send the amended minutes out to the committee and to Virginia to post.

**II. Business Donation Letter Merging**

Cheryl presented the completed business letter, stuffed and sealed in alpha order from Z to A with a distribution list. Items at the top of the list have been pulled due to business closure. Virginia indicated that the committee should review the items to pull first and she would provide her requested letters after. Committee reviewed list and pulled ones they would like to hand out and/or write special notes to businesses before mailing. Also any that had been handed out at voting day were pulled. List noted with what letters had been pulled and for which committee member. Meadow will get remaining letters to Virginia to pull.

There are approximately 188 letters to be mailed. Postage will need to be requested to the BOS. If postage is not covered by BOS, the committee has agreed to divide the cost by the members of the committee and date the postage. Cheryl will check with Nancy to identify if a PO is need to the postage request.

Extra copies of the letter was provided should there be a need to hand out to businesses not previously defined on list.

**III. Selectman Update Discussion**

Deb provided updates on the BOS discussion – still evaluating and will check with legal when they meet on Monday morning. Discussion on what the role of the selectman on the committee will be and who will be able to participate. Cheryl said Virginia has a list of questions for legal.

Val asked Cheryl to bring forward the following questions if not already address by Virginia;

Can both selectman be liaisons for the committee

Could the committee be moved to the Historical Society

Can one selectmen be a liaison or none

Meadow asked if only one person can participate who would it be and who would be making this decision. Cheryl indicated that she can see where either party contributes to the group and that both parties feel strongly about being involved. Cheryl had an opportunity to discuss what she brings to the group and indicated that it would be valuable for Virginia to have an opportunity to do the same.

Deb indicated that Virginia's involvement with the video project for the OMH may not be possible and that legal should be consulted on this.

Cheryl also indicated she would be addressing if a selectman can offer creative support to the committee but not be an active member (such as fundraising documentation and brochures).

Deb noted that the charter needs to be evaluated to determine if it is legal (written in legal form). The name defined in various documents, Meetinghouse vs Meeting House, needs to be determined and updated where needed.

#### **IV. Fundraising and Grant Updates**

Val provided updates on the LCHIP sign. Not able to locate the previous sign and discussed with George Born at LCHIP getting a replacement. He indicated that we would need to cover the cost of the second sign and it would run approximately \$200. Not going to worry about it at this moment as we do not have the funds to cover this. She also asked about the pews and he indicated we should review the original document to determine the appropriate response. Looking at this document it is clear that they can be moved around on the premises but not removed from the premises.

Val is working on the Moose Plate funding through the NH Council for the Arts and funding for the repair of the stained glass windows. Working on collecting the required information for completion of the grant application.

Val is taking the business donation letter to companies outside of Epsom (Temescal Wellness Center in Dover) and encouraged others to do the same.

Val indicated she is still working on the meetinghouse trip to speak with other towns that have gone through the same process for advice and guidance with not only fundraising but the construction process.

CDFA grant should be looked at and start gathering the information that will be required for the application in the future.

Deb updated group on the outcome of the fundraising efforts at voting day. \$217.25 was raised and provided to the BOS for acceptance.

#### **V. Strategic Plan & LCHIP**

Reviewed last version from 2/17/19 and made modification to existing document. Items # 3C & 3D to be looked at as if this is something that can be addressed by the Historical Society. # 4 to be redefined as Project Plan. # 7 to be updated to December 2019. Val will update documents and provide new copy to committee.

Deb brought forward the Stewardship for LCHIP. Currently it is Sharon Burnston and Cheryl spoke with her the day of voting and indicated that she is interested in handing this off to someone but she is not comfortable it being a BOS member. Cheryl suggested Val would be a great fit for this. Val indicated that she would reach out to Sharon to discuss this possible change. If Sharon is in agreement with the change Val will reach out to George Born to have the information updated. Val will also check with Nancy on getting a copy of the last LCHIP Stewardship report submitted.

## **VI. OMH Budget Discussion**

Deb updated the committee on the fact that the default budget means there are no funds available for the committee to use for administrative expenses. BOS has indicated that they will be looking at what they can do to cover expenses.

Postcards to the public- Not able to use the previously designed cards as they include information that cannot be accessed at this time such as Amazon Smile and GoFundMe. Val made a motion to table the postcards at this time, Meadow seconded it. Additional discussion on if this will be the best way to reach the residence as the postage for mailing 1800+ postcards will be excessive.

Other options discussed were Concord Monitor as the Suncook Sun will be going away, email blasts to residence and a possible addition of a Town Cryer link on the town website where people can sign up for email notification of town events, meeting and such. Also posting on Social Media such as Facebook and Instagram.

Val has the list of emails from the Survey Monkey and Cheryl has a list from the FDK group. Cheryl will look to see how these might be imported into a email list for mailings.

## **VII. Other**

Meadow presented wording to be added to the beginning of the regular minutes. After discussion the following was the final draft. Chuck motioned to accept and Val seconded.

The Old Meetinghouse Revitalization Committee has come together on (date) to continue the effort to bring the Old Meetinghouse up to code for occupancy so it may be utilized as a community space. It is the goal of the committee to finance the effort through fundraising without utilizing taxpayer dollars.

Cheryl asked if we can get a date to have a farmers market on the OMH property without having an occupancy permit and who/how would we go about getting this done.

Cheryl has contacts with a couple plumbing places and wanted to know if she can bring the business letter to them for possible materials contributions provided legals says it is ok for the BOS to act in this capacity. Discussed with Chuck if this was OK from the collection of materials perspective.

Deb asked Chuck to be the keeper of the keys for the month of April as she will be away for a period of time.

Next meeting 4/3/19 at 6pm

Chuck motioned to adjourn and Val seconded. Meeting closed at 8 PM

Submitted by  
Meadow Wysocki