

Old Meetinghouse Revitalization (OMRC) Meeting Minutes
July 22, 2020
6 PM
Old Meetinghouse
Final

Committee Present: Meadow Wysocki, Virginia Drew, Chuck Driesbach, Norman Yeaton

Community Present: None

The Old Meetinghouse Revitalization Committee meets to continue efforts 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.

I. Approve 6/10/20 minutes

Minor changes made to meeting minutes. Meadow made a motion to approve minutes. Norm seconded.

II. New Members

Virginia spoke to a resident who is very interested in joining the committee. They have a passion for historic buildings and has experience with fundraising for Epsom Central School. The committee agreed we should invite them to the next meeting and if the group decides to move forward, Virginia will put in the recommendation to the Board of Selectman for appointment. Virginia also spoke to the prior resident who was a possible candidate and their current life circumstance do not provide the time they felt necessary to devote to the committee.

III. Grant Report Update

Meadow provided an update of the Final Report due to the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts, Moose Plate Grant. She provided a handout to the committee of the current draft responses and a copy of the questions being addressed. She also discussed the attachments that will be included with the final report. She requested feedback no later than Tuesday 7/28 as the report deadline is 7/31/20.

IV. Piano Donation

Virginia spoke with Rita and Carol Lambert concerning an electric piano they are interested in donating to the Old Meetinghouse. This would provide access to a piano for different cultural events and activities in the future. The committee agreed this would be a nice addition and could be stored in the basement until the work is completed and could be put in

the main hall. Virginia will bring the donation request to the BOS for approval. Norman suggested we do some type of PR around the receipt of this donation.

V. Goals for the Remainder of the Year

Norm suggested we look at the septic system for the Old Town Hall or what would be needed for the new Town Offices and possibly tie the two buildings together into one septic and leach field. Meadow suggested we should look at spending current funds on building the required bathrooms and not address the septic until we know more about the potential Town Office modifications. She asked if we could speak to the person who prepared the original septic designs and see what would be needed to modify it to cover both buildings. Chuck asked if we are moving forward with the bathrooms does anyone know of someone that could do CAD designs for us. Virginia knows a couple people and will reach out to them. The bathrooms will be two toilets in the women's room and a toilet and urinal in the men's room.

Virginia asked about looking at holding events outside the OM in conjunction with other organizations such as the Boy Scouts or Girl Scout. We should be looking at how we can bring more people around the building to get more support and exposure.

Other

Virginia indicated that the BOS is looking at potential new Town Office locations. One of the spaces they have been looking at is the Old Town Hall. The BOS is looking to extend the current lease by one year to provide additional time to determine a location and make any modifications needed. Part of the advantage of the Old Town Hall locations is the OM would be available for larger meetings. Another piece of this which is being looked at is the Epsom Food Pantry and ensuring they have the space they need. Chuck suggested that the basement could be finished off in the OM and could be utilized for the Food Pantry as well as excess storage needs for the Town Hall. This would also provide a private space for the Food Pantry that would be out of the way of general traffic through the Town Hall. Virginia provide details on what modifications the BOS would be looking at to make the Old Town Hall work for the Town Offices.

Virginia provided an update on the decision of the donation return.

Meadow made a motion to adjourn. Norman seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm.

Next Scheduled OMRC meeting is on August 5, 2020 at 6pm at the Old Meetinghouse.

Respectfully submitted by Meadow Wysocki