

Old Town Hall Preservation Committee

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 1st, 2022 - Meeting time: 7 pm

Call to Order

Secretary's Report 10 mins

November 2021 minutes submitted to the town

December 2021, minutes reviewed

Bruce made a motion to accept the minutes as amended by the group. Lauriejane seconded the motion, and with the roll call vote, all were in favor.

There was no meeting of the OTHPC in January 2022.

Financial report 10 mins

Our committee has a savings account for insurance money, a donations account for fundraising, income expenditures. Within the donation account (\$162), in kind donations in cash or checks, which we need to verify with the clerk.

Mark's Heating was called when it was discovered that the furnace was making a squealing noise. They tightened a belt and changed a bearing. The visit cost \$90.

A plumber was called to the OTH when it was discovered that there was a burst pipe in the basement. We have not received a bill from the plumber yet.

Old/New Business: 40 mins

Administra0on:

Application and Fees -The Select Board has voted to accept and put in place our suggested price increase for renting the OTH. The new fees are: security deposit \$100 (everyone), resident rental fee \$100, non-residents \$150.

Local business groups - The group read and reviewed the fundraising letter that Grace drafted for the group soliciting donations toward the OTH. We did not send it out earlier (Dec.2021), feeling that there were too many unknowns. Since then we have updated the letter and included information on the warrant to provide matching funds.

Fund raising- At our Town Meeting, March 5, Article 6 (@ 9:00) will be voted on to provide matching funds up to \$100,00. We need to clarify the 2nd paragraph of our fundraising letter to businesses and add Platinum Donors \$1000. We are thinking about a Platinum Donors plaque that would hang in the OTH with the names of those donors on it.

We want to get the OTH fundraising letters into the mail asap to all businesses in Limington once we get the letter approved. We will reach individual donors through word of mouth, the local paper, and social media.

Great article in the paper about the church in Cornish needing a new steeple (\$250,000). We will structure an ad much like theirs for the paper was well.

Other ideas offered at this time were a bottle drive, raffles for a quilt and an Afghan, offer a wood raffle. Sherry will call Martell's to see if they are interested and willing to give a cord. A silent auction was also suggested.

Social Media - GoFundMe takes a percentage of whatever you raise. We are not sure the town has rules about such pages. GoFundMe is a means to raise bigger money, it's free advertising, reaching outside our community. Facebook has been okayed as a method for getting the word out regarding our OTHPC work. We have a Facebook page which is administered by the all (5) OTHPC board members, and to date we have 131 members.

Prep for Town Meeting- Sat. March 5 @ 9:00. Big presentation, a BIG DEAL, and each of us on the committee should take a part, and have a topic we address.

- Our 2 Annual Reports - 5 Year Plan - Engineering Reports - Timeline of major repairs at OTH

OTH Resource List - Susie created the list and submitted it to the town Select Board. It's a call list if OTH issues arise. We will need to be able to get a hold of the Select Board members on a weekend.

Robert Taylor Map - The map has successfully been reframed in a hand made frame and covered with plexiglass. The map is back in place and looks fantastic. Thank you Lauriejane for following through on this project.

Insurance Walk-Through - We haven't heard anything yet. We don't know if the Maine Municipal Association (MMA) will cover the building with insurance again this year. Stan walked the underwriter through the building and below, and shared the work we had had done to the building to bring it up to code which had been our charge by the Select Board. We even have a new propane detector, which puts us ahead of the curve.

Recap our year 2021/Goals for 2022 -

FOUNDATION for the Limington Community Center at the Old Town Hall

Questions- How do we measure the building to know if it is shifting and how much over time?

Maine Preservation of Yarmouth - We would like to make contact and schedule a walk through of the OTH with someone from Maine Preservation. A representative will come to the building to see it in context of other buildings in our district. They will charge us \$60/hour and .58 cents/mile. The group worked to find three viable meeting date for committee members and the Preservation Maine representative to meet. Thursday, Feb 10 @ 3:00 was chosen, and Sherry will contact them and confirm the visit at that date and time. Lauriejane made a motion, and

Bruce seconded it, that we contact Preservation Maine to invite them to the OTH for an initial visit. We want them to see the building and assess our situation and help us in grant writing.

Grants - Most grant applications have a financial area that asks what are YOUR committee sources of support? Is the town supporting you? How are they doing that concretely? What is your operational budget? What amount of in-kind donations to you have?

1. Stephen and Tabitha King- They called back and left a message!!!!
2. HUD community grant
3. Narragansett Grant due April 1st.
4. Save America Treasures Grant (SAT) Grant Program through the National Park Service. (Possibilities)
5. Belvedere Historical Preservation Energy Efficiency Grant - June 1

Maine Community web site has a list of grants.

Maintenance:

Window repair - Beacon Building Supply / Paradigm windows / Have serial #, and the company will be sending us the parts.

Frozen Pipes - We insulated the space between the furnace room and dirt area. Recently pipes froze in the basement of the OTH. We found 3 inches of standing water on the floor. The plumber bypassed the downstairs bathroom. Bruce will tag the pipe, and take the faucet off. Given frozen pipes, Bruce and Sherry got accordion style R1 foam barrier that committee members put up to hold in the heat in the basement room and to block out the cold of the dirt floor.

Grace made a motion, and Lauriejane seconded it, that we purchase the foam board and other task related supplies for no more than \$150.

Front Doors – We have already purchased the paint for the doors and we plan to paint them in the spring.

Stairs and Ramp repair – no change here. Trying to make it through the winter and hope to tackle this replacement project in the spring.

Snow and Ice Removal -

Fluorescent lights – The electrician applies for the energy efficiency Maine program

Limington Town Hall Sign - The sign atop of the building has begun to come free at the right corner. We are keeping an eye on it through the winter.

Susie made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Grace and roll call vote was unanimously affirmative.

Review Action Plan for next meeting Feb 15, 2022 @ 7 pm

Sherry will let the town know that we are having a 2nd meeting in the month of February.