

## **BROOKLINE MEETINGHOUSE COMMITTEE MINUTES**

MEETING DATE: July 17, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lee Anne Parker, Dan Towler,

MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC: Sara Wiswall

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kerry Bourne, Stan Noga Jr., Mark Bills

Lee Anne called the meeting to order 6:04 PM

Minutes of last meeting June 26 have not been received. They will be reviewed at the next Committee meeting August 7<sup>th</sup>..

There was discussion concerning Open Meeting Law and whether it applied to our committee. Members are anxious to be sure that we be performing our duties in a legal and acceptable manner and that we be on the same page as the Selectboard. Lee Anne will reach out to David Jones after the meeting to get clarity and will report back.

August 10 Windham County History Fair --

Lee Anne has contacted Moore Free Library about borrowing their 10' X 10' pop-up tent.

An inventory of salable items in the committee's possession was conducted, including tote bags, Neila Fisher posters of various sizes, note cards, and mugs

The tally was as follows:

Totes	8
17" X 21" posters	18
9" X 11" posters	16
6" X 8" posters	18
Neila Fisher note cards	100

Dan purchased 100 new envelopes to go with the notecards, and Sara will try to produce a label that can be either printed on the cards or affixed to the cards describing the image on the card.

Sara will also work on business cards with an old photo of the Meetinghouse on one side, and wording on the other side.

Sara will also work with Lee Anne to create a banner that can be put up at fund-raising events such as the History Fair, so that people can readily see what we represent.

Lee Anne has been working and will continue to work on visual displays for our table, with photos of the Meetinghouse and some photos and narrative about the major work that has been done on the building in the last 3 years, as well as our plans for the near future.

A tentative schedule for the History Fair was discussed, with Sara agreeing to work our table in the morning (9:00 - 12:30), Dan in the afternoon (12:30 - 4:00) with Lee Anne filling in 9:00 - 10:30 AM, 12:00 - 1:00 PM, and 3:00 - 4:00 PM. Lee Anne will reach out to those not in attendance about staffing to see if anyone is interested.

Discussion of the status of the septic system was tabled until Kerry is present at our next meeting. Kerry has dug up the top of the tank, which is a metal lid approx. 6 feet in diameter, and the pipe from the building has been uncovered as well. Exploration will continue in order to find out what we can about the condition of the system.

Discussion of next steps regarding bats. Kerry had said at our last meeting that he would be calling Serv Pro back to try and arrange for them to come back to the BMH to review with him details of the bid we received from their 5/14/19 inspection.

The Committee does not support proceeding with actions by Pest Control at this time due to bid price being \$ 6779.00 (without adding in the additional cost of crane rental). Lee Anne suggested that after Serv Pro removes existing guano a removable tarp be placed under where bats congregate to allow for yearly clean out.

Discussion regarding condition of the propane appliances was tabled until Kerry's return. We are still in the process of determining whether an inspection of the room heaters and kitchen stoves was conducted in the recent past, and, if so, what the findings were.

A community member contacted Lee Anne recently asking to borrow some of our 6-foot banquet tables and metal folding chairs for a private event, in exchange for a donation to the Meetinghouse Restoration Fund. After tables were returned it was discovered that the bottom step at the entrance to the side of the kitchen addition had been broken. Dan placed a CAUTION sign at the bottom of the steps, and Kerry will be consulted on a suitable repair plan, which was identified as priority. It should be a simple, and very inexpensive repair.

There was discussion of setting a date to begin prepping the walls in the kitchen for a paint job (to be done by committee members and volunteers). Saturday, August 17 was tentatively agreed upon.

Grants - Lee Anne contacted Caitlin Corkins and was added to their Historic Preservation Grant mailing list. We should hear from them the first week of August when they post the applications for the next round of grants. Lee Anne will also contact Vermont Arts Council Cultural Facilities Fund for their grant guidelines in the next grant cycle. New members of the committee were brought up to speed on past grant applications and awards.

Seating capacity of the meeting room was discussed, with the idea that Town Meeting could potentially take place in the room. There are 70 metal folding chairs in the building, and it was determined that the available floor space could accommodate that many chairs, with room for a table at the end for moderator and town officials. It is acknowledged there are other impediments to holding Town Meeting in the addition in 2020.

Members discussed a visit to the Athens Meetinghouse to tour their building and see what they have been up to, but no date was set.

Next meeting is set for 6pm August 7<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Daniel Towler