

BROOKLINE MEETINGHOUSE COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: Thursday, March 17, 2022, 6:00 PM, Brookline Town Office

Members present: Lee Anne Parker, Dan Towler, Kerry Bourne, Dot Maggio

LAP brought the meeting to order at 6:10 PM.

DM moved to accept minutes of 2/22/22 meeting; LAP second, all were in favor.

DM announced receipt of a \$1,000 donation towards Meetinghouse restoration from the Cleveland Foundation of Cleveland, OH (LAP's sister & brother-in-law).

This brings our account balance to \$28,741, not including a \$10,000 grant promised from Howard Cutler. Completing the installation of storm windows on the building – using the estimate from Continental Screen & Glass – and the \$9,420 steeple repair (approved by the SB on 3/16) would leave us with \$23,624 (including Cutler funds).

Kerry has committed to finishing the steeple repair project by May 30, 2022.

Three bids were received by the March 16 deadline for painting the steeple –

Vermont Painting Company of St. Johnsbury, VT – \$10,800

Newfane Painters, Brookline, VT – \$14,200

Momaney Painters, Dummerston, VT – \$23,000

Members carefully reviewed the three bids. All include the necessary lift rental.

It was noted that Newfane Painters and Momaney Painters both bid on the job in 2019.

Newfane Painters at that time bid \$13,400 and Momaney \$15,000. Momaney notes that they are an "EPA Lead-Safe Certified Firm" which may be relevant to our project.

The Committee received an email from Stan Noga of the SB who is researching the necessity of this certification for the steeple painting.

During our discussion, Dot called all three contractors to inquire about their bids. She left a voice mail for Momaney who did not answer. Glenn Bostic from Vermont Painting Co. did answer and told us he did visit the building and also that he is EPA lead safe certified.

An internet search confirmed that Momaney is certified but Vermont Painting Co. does not appear to be on the list of EPA certified Vermont painting contractors.

Tom Staats of Newfane Painters told us that, as far as he knows, he was the last to do a complete paint job on the steeple in 1993, and he used all acrylic paints at that time. He is familiar with the EPA lead paint guidelines and safe practices but does not have the official certification.

BMH Committee would prefer to hire a local contractor, and given the experience and reputation for excellence of both Newfane and Momaney Painters, the size of the difference between estimates would be the deciding factor for us, unless the SB determines that the EPA lead paint certification is a necessary prerequisite.

The SB tabled any further action on the estimates until their next meeting April 6.

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It is likely that the steeple has been scraped and repainted multiple times since lead-based paint was last sold in 1978, but whether there is any lead paint remaining underneath existing layers is unknown, and to what extent we need to be concerned about that is unknown.

In other business – LAP is in contact with Continental Screen & Glass, trying to find out when we can expect delivery of the 9 storm windows we have ordered. Need to update David Schupp whose donation is paying for the windows.

Need to contact Howard Cutler to begin the process of transferring funds for the steeple repair. Plans are ongoing for first of the season open house on Saturday, May 7 and plant sale on Saturday, May 28.

DM reports the SB is enthusiastic about town party idea & will help organize. Saturday, July 9 was suggested as a possible date.

Still waiting for confirmation of a date for Welcome Center joint fundraiser with Athens MH.

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 7, 2022, same time, same place.

DM moved to adjourn 7:30, LA second, all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Daniel Towler