

BROOKLINE MEETINGHOUSE COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022, 6:00 PM @ Brookline Town Office

Members present: Lee Anne Parker, Dan Towler, Kerry Bourne, Dot Maggio
Others present : Select Board member Stan Noga, Jr.

Lee Anne brought the meeting to order at 6:08 PM.

Minutes of the last meeting Dec. 14, 2021 were reviewed and approved without amendment.

DM moved to accept, LAP seconded, so voted.

Mr. Noga was welcomed by Committee members.

LAP brought members up to date on donations received since our year-end fund-raising appeal went out in December. We have received a total so far of \$3,280 from 34 respondents, roughly half with Brookline addresses. LA is keeping a spreadsheet with donors' names & addresses, and sending out thank you notes. A subsequent appeal for donations or "sustaining" contributors was discussed, possibly to be included in envelopes when tax bills are sent out. This idea will be revisited at a later meeting.

List of "prioritized restoration projects" which LAP prepared and submitted to the Select Board for their review was discussed. We are committed to spending \$3,064 with Continental Screen & Glass for 6 storm windows for the annex plus 3 for the sanctuary, which we expect to be installed as soon as they become available. If we decide to order all remaining storm windows for the building from Continental, the cost will be an additional \$4,165.

Flashing and bell tower restoration is the next major project we hope to see completed in 2022. LAP and KB reviewed the details of this job. Mr. Noga mentioned that he had inspected the steeple from the inside and noticed large gaps between the wood where bats could easily get in, and wanted to know to what extent the proposed steeple work would correct this problem, and whether "bat removal and exclusion" – such as was proposed by Estate Wildlife Removal – could happen concurrently with the steeple work, and if not, when and how we planned to deal with this issue.

KB explained that the steeple restoration would entail sealing any openings where bats are currently getting in, and that it made sense to complete this work and see what sort of bat remediation work would remain.

The Committee did not discuss remaining projects on the priority list, but turned to discussion of the scope of work for the steeple project. LAP and KB had prepared a scope of work to be advertised as the project is put out to bid. DM presented a revised version she prepared with correct language – four separate invitations to bid for a) removal of bats, b) repairs to steeple, c) exterior painting of steeple, and d) rental of a suitable lift for all 3 projects.

BMH Minutes 1/18/22 (continued)

Members went over these in great detail, offering several corrections. DM offered to retype and submit to members the invitations to bid for b, c, and d above, with the bat removal one on hold until the other work is done. Once approved at our next meeting, these can go out shortly thereafter.

Other business –

It was noted that the entrance to the MH had not been cleared of snow since the recent storm. DM said she would contact A. S. Clark to see that this is done.

LAP and DT Zoom discussion with Howard Cutler on Jan. 13, which both felt was extremely productive, was touched upon briefly and will be discussed further.

Correspondence with Paula Sagerman about an updated conditions assessment/feasibility study for the BMH was mentioned. To be discussed at a later meeting.

LAP and DT will join a Zoom discussion about historic paint color analysis on Jan. 19 presented by the Rockingham Meeting House.

On the subject of outreach events planned in 2022, in addition to a proposed plant sale on Memorial Day weekend, LAP proposed planning a town party, possibly for July 4 weekend, assuming minimal risk from Covid, to showcase the building, what's been done and our plans and hopes for the future. Members were enthusiastic about this idea.

Next meeting is planned for 6:00 PM Thursday, February 3, 2022 at the Town Office.

KB moved to adjourn, DM second, all were in favor. Meeting adjourned 7:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Daniel Towler