

BROOKLINE MEETINGHOUSE COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE: February 13, 2020 @ Brookline Town Office

Members present: Lee Anne Parker, Kerry Bourne, Dan Towler, Stan Noga, Jr., Mark Bills

Lee Anne brought the meeting to order 6:02 PM

LA moved to approve the minutes of our last meeting 12/12/19 as written, KB second, so voted.

Members expressed disappointment about the resignation of Sara Wiswall, but deeply appreciative of her contributions and respectful of her wishes. We are down to six members and hope to find someone to bring us back up to seven.

Report on Nov. 2019 fund-raising mailing to Brookline tax-payers --

We received a total of 33 donations from \$10 to \$250, plus one large one, for a total to date of \$7,155. LA has sent thank you notes to all donors.

Building priorities for 2020 --

KB has secured three estimates for painting the steeple, averaging about \$15,000 per bid.

We will have to apply for a grant to get this done, and the VT Division for Historic Preservation, our most likely source of funding for this project, has an October 1 deadline for applications, with notification in December, so we will hope we can get this done in 2021 at the earliest.

There was lengthy discussion of our next most urgent priority, which is the foundation under the wood annex. KB estimates this will be similarly expensive, and thus will require a separate grant process.

Much discussion of timetables for foundation work, moving the entry door from the side to the rear of the building, possible reconfiguration and remodeling of the bathroom & kitchen for accessibility and other code compliance, and weatherization of the annex so it can be used year-round. Also discussed was whether we need professional design advice to accomplish all these objectives, which could be obtained through a planning grant from the Windham Regional Commission. No conclusions were reached.

SN will prepare a questionnaire for the upcoming Town Meeting, asking for input on building renovation priorities and possible uses.

LA, DT, and SN will work on creating an archive of BMH materials, to be kept in the basement of the Town Office. LA will purchase a plastic file tote. DT will find out if any useful archival material is presently in the vault in the town office.

Meeting adjourned 8:25. LA move, KB second, so voted.

Respectfully submitted, Dan Towler

