

BROOKLINE MEETINGHOUSE COMMITTEE

DRAFT MINUTES

MEETING DATE: Thursday, June 3, 2021, 6:00 PM @ BMH

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

Lee Anne brought the meeting to order at 6:06 PM.

Draft minutes of last meeting on May 12 were reviewed. One correction was noted.

Approved as amended.

Suggestion was made to specify in future minutes any tasks that specific individuals agreed to carry out, so we can improve our chances for accountability.

- Historic Register application

We have been informed that an advisory panel in Montpelier will review our application on June 24 and recommend listing or not. If we get a favorable result there, it goes to the U. S. Dept. of the Interior, which maintains the National Register, and we'll be informed of their finding later this summer.

- New Meetinghouse Sign

Kerry met with Mike Staats who is designing and creating a new sign for us, and they discussed the Committee's preferences. Members are satisfied that we will get a sign that we will like and that will be a benefit to the building and the community. We are excited to see the finished product.

- MFL Memory Project

Lee Anne will compile a list of people who have shared reminiscences of the BMH when it was the Baptist Church on our facebook page, so these people can be interviewed for the Memory Project and their memories can be recorded for posterity.

- Open House June 5

Lee Anne has procured an "OPEN" flag to hang in front of the building when we are having events open to the public. LA has set up the town's sandwich board at the triangle at the foot of Hill Road with open house info, and DT has done the same with sandwich board at BMH. LA has got word to Julie's email list and DT has posted a notice on Front Porch Forum. LA will bring a card table to set up out front to greet people, and will bring baked goods and cold beverages. DT has brought a portable CD player and set it up in the sanctuary so we can have musical accompaniment. Members discussed whether or not to wear masks or ask visitors to wear them, and it was decided they will be optional in view of the most recent public health guidance.

BMH Minutes 6/3/21 (continued)

- Buildings & Grounds issues

Members are determined to finish prepping and painting kitchen walls this summer. DT has primer he can make available. KB has offered to do plaster repair in meeting room, so that can also be painted. Members will continue trying to locate someone to restore one of the double-hung sashes in the meeting room, and we are pricing storm windows also. Continuing to seek a source for over-sized storm windows for the sanctuary. DT will follow up with an appliance company about options for restoring or replacing gas stove(s) and refrigerators in the kitchen.

- BMH Brochures

Lee Anne created stickers to cover the lines in our brochures with last year's dates for open houses and last year's committee members. Amended brochures have been left at Newfane Store, Harmonyville Store, the Town Office, and Moore Free Library and will continue to be distributed around the area.

- Newfane-Brookline Newsletter

DT has written something about BMH for Issue #2 of the newsletter, emphasizing the importance of opening the building to public use, and the need for more input from the community in setting priorities for the future of the Meetinghouse.

Next meeting scheduled for Thurs. June 24, 2021 at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Towler