

BROOKLINE MEETINGHOUSE COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE: July 7, 2020 @ Brookline Meetinghouse grounds

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

LA brought meeting to order 6:05 PM.

Minutes of our last meeting March 12, 2020 were reviewed and accepted. LA moved, DT second.

It was noted that the Covid-19 pandemic has made it impractical to meet the past 4 months, in addition to forcing cancellation of planned monthly Open Houses at the Meetinghouse this year, and postponement or cancellation of myriad other outreach and fund-raising plans.

Windham Foundation grant was completed and submitted by Lee Anne in May, requesting funds to complete restoration of the steeple. LA reports that we expect to hear the results of our application in early August.

A broken pane of glass in one of the 20-over-20 windows on the south side of the Church has been discovered. Cause unknown. KB will try to track down some antique glass that would be suitable for repairing the broken pane.

KB spread topsoil and mulch over the disturbed ground atop the septic tank and planted grass this spring. KB and LA watered frequently and new grass has come up nicely.

LA and DT provided planters for the front of the Church facing Grassy Brook Rd. and LA supplied flowering plants. DT set up sandwich board with public service notices.

Dot will contact Perkins Propane Service to get an updated estimate for installation of a Rinnai wall heater, which we are hoping to have in the annex meeting room this year.

DT and KB will continue to research options for restoration and/or replacement of the two propane cooking stoves in the kitchen. We would love to keep the older stove for its historic value and will explore the feasibility of converting it to electric for safety reasons.

The consensus is to keep at least one if not both the two refrigerators for now, since although old they both still appear to be in working order.

BMC will continue to deliberate whether to apply for grants this year from Windham Regional Commission (municipal planning grant) or Vermont Division for Historic Preservation matching grant, both of which have a due date of October 1.

DT will contact Paula Sagerman, historic preservation consultant in Brattleboro, to see if she is able to attend a meeting this summer to brain-storm with us on several issues, including applying for National Register status for the building.

An archive of Baptist Church documents and records from the late 1800's and early 1900's was recently turned over to BMC by a long-time Brookline resident. They will be catalogued and added to the Church and Meetinghouse archive in the Town Office.

Next meeting was set for 4 weeks from tonight, Tuesday, August 4, 2020 at 6:00 PM at the Meetinghouse.

Meeting adjourned 7:22 PM. LA moved, DM second.

Respectfully submitted,
Daniel Towler