

Old Town Hall Preservation Committee
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 15th, 2022 - Meeting time: 7 pm
Note: This meeting replaces the March 1st meeting due to town vote

Call to Order - Welcome to Alan McLucas who joined us in the audience.

Secretary's Report 10 mins

December 2021- turned in to Patty
February 1 2022 minutes - turned into Patty

Financial report 10 mins

Everything remains that same as last month. We still have not received a bill from the plumber for fixing the pipe in the OTH basement.

The committee agreed to go ahead with the Yarmouth Preservation visit. A motion was made by Lauriejane and seconded by Grace to pay up to \$300 to Maine Preservation for the mileage and time of the representative they send to meet with us. Roll call vote, all in favor.

One donation to date has come in to the OTH Restoration Fund!!

We have a savings account but don't know the exact amount in the account. The business fundraising letters went out to 58 businesses and hopefully the monies will start flowing into the fund.

Old/New Business: 40 mins

Administration:

Letter to local business groups – We did not send out our fundraising letter in December because we thought there were too many unknowns regarding the fate of OTH and steps forward with the town. We updated the letter including the warrant for matching funds, clarification of paragraph 2, added Platinum Donors level. Since then we have finalized the letter to businesses in town for raising donations and got it approved by the Select Board. Susie personalized and addressed and sent out 50+ letters and then brought them to the Municipal Center to garner help with accurate addresses or PO boxes. Bev and Patty were a great help sorting through the letters before they went in the mail to catch those of businesses that are no longer in business or have moved, and added 20+ businesses to our list as well.

Fund raising ideas –

Wood Raffle- get the word out to folks who can donate cords of wood, and make tickets available July/August and have the tickets for the raffles be pulled at our annual October Open House. The Municipal office has alerted us to both a quilt and an afghan have been donated to help raise funds for the OTH building.

Ads —

We reviewed a print out of the next ad for the Shopper's Guide. We added a line about Select Board and Financial Advisory Committee endorsement. Funding is part A of getting the work done on the building. Grace will rework the ad and send it to all of us for suggestions. We need to have it all fixed to show the Selectman so they can vote on it Thursday. We will ask for an upper corner spot and a 1/4 size add for \$95. Susie made a

motion to create a PO using the same ad for the next two weeks in the Shopper's Guide (\$95 x 2 = \$190). Grace seconded the motion, and the roll call vote showed that all were in favor.

Facebook Members—

We have 158 members currently. We have showed and shared key OTHPC documents, work party accomplishments, unique features of the OTH, and how we are monitoring the shift of the building with lasers. Our page is shareable with other Limington oriented FB pages in town.

GoFundMe Page—

We continue to wait to hear from MMA as to whether we can set up a GoFundMe page for the OTH.

Prep for March 5—

We will all take part in our presentation at the Town Meeting @ 9:00 on March 5. Attendees will see our budget. Town Report came out this day. We all grabbed a copy to scour!! We each need to understand the budget fully. What is our understanding of the matching funds; are they available for longer than a year? Can the \$10K be used? We need to clarify this at the start of the Town Meeting. How is this accessible- grants, pleas, fundraising?

People Resource List—

Susie created a comprehensive list of the names, addresses, email addresses and phone numbers of all individuals and companies used by Town to care for the Old Town Hall. This list has been submitted to the town Board of Selectmen.

MMA Insurance – We understand that Sue Caston came and did the walk through of the building with Stanley. We don't understand why the committee was not notified of the visit and one of the OTHPC members were not present for the walk through inspection. We understood that the Select Board had received a letter from the MMA (Sue Caston) stating her concerns, lack of action and expecting that the upcoming local vote would begin the funding of the foundation repair or the building would lose it's insurance as of July 1, 2022. Susie penned a letter to the MMA that the Select Board was aware of and had read, and brought the letter and supporting documents to Augusta. During the visit Susie clarified what the up-coming vote did not reflect the MMA's expectation of direct funding by the town. Our understanding is that the Select Board needs to respond to her letter.

OTH Graphic and Cost—

The new graphic of the OTH will be brought to Minuteman Press in Denmark and become our logo. The envelopes and stationery will have the Town of Limington address but will have the **Limington Community Center at the Old Town Hall** as the title. The Minuteman Press will do our logo, letterhead and envelopes for \$60/hour. Grace made a motion that we spend no more than \$250 of printing costs, going with the cream colored stationery (250 sheets @ \$96.12), and Bruce seconded motion.

Maine Preservation—

Jon Hall of the Yarmouth Preservation Maine came to meet with the committee and we did a walk through. Have not heard anything yet from his visit. During our visit with Preservation Maine, Bonnie Lord was taking notes to be shared with the Limington Historical Society. Thank you Bonnie for capturing the notes and for networking with the LHS.

Barba, Wheelock, and Irons—

Sherry has been playing phone tag with Nancy Barba. Sherry has also emailed Rick Irons to see about his work schedule moving forward and maybe a new estimate for the work.

Grants -

We are concentrating our efforts in 2 person writing teams to pump out the Narragansett grant within due April 1st. Sherry and Bruce has started the drafting process and others will continue to add to the draft as we move forward. The other grant we are going to act on is the Belvedere Historical Preservation Energy Efficiency Grant due June 1st.

Maintenance:

Snow removal-

The snow and ice have been brutal given our last couple of storms. The snow care at the OTH has inconsistent at best. This last Wed. the Snowmobile Club was trying to get in the OTH for their monthly meeting and the steps and ramp had not been shoveled, sanded or salted.

Do we need a back up plan or person to keep things safe regarding snow removal at the OTH?

We must clarify with the town what the snow removal job at the OTH involves. The job entails clearing fully the platform at the front doors, the 2 stair cases and ramp, and the cement pad leading to the road. They must be shoveled, sanded and salted after every storm. The platform leading to and the stairs of the fire escape need to be cleared every storm. There must always be a handicap parking space cleared by the handicap sign.

Maybe we need to formalize who checks the building for snow and ice concerns. We want communication with the Select Board and Town, that if the removal work CANNOT be done by the Town, then maybe groups shouldn't meet there on a given day or night or we (OTHPC) should be notified and we'll call for our designated back up.

Basement Insulation—

The OTHPC insulated the space between the furnace room and dirt area under the OTH building. The work is finished and the PO with receipts have been submitted to the Town.

Spring Projects—

1. Painting Doors – paint has been purchased
2. Window Repair — Beacon Building Supply / Paradigm windows / Have serial #
3. Stairs and ramp repair – volunteer wanted, no start date yet

Fluorescent lights –

The electrician applies for the energy efficiency Maine program and we wait to hear on this topic.

Limington Town Hall Sign—

The sign on the front of the building has come undone from the building at its right corner and we will continue to keep an eye on it.

Table Dolly—

The tables in use at the OTH are heavy, plastic and they slide to the floor with a crash!! We feel they are dangerous. We would like to purchase a table dolly to solve this table storage problem. Sherry has been doing some pricing of dollies.

Laser Level- Bruce shared that he had purchased a new toy, a self-leveling laser gismo so that we can take measurements just as in the IDE Engineering report and show ourselves and others how the building is moving. We are looking for a pitch change differential. From our best calculating the building has dropped 3/4 since 2020.

Flagpole Replacement—

An anonymous donor has approached the Town to donate the funds to have the 2nd flagpole, damaged in a traffic accident to be replaced at the OTH. We are excited by the news and thankful for the generosity of that individual in town.

Susie made a motion that we adjourn for the night, Grace seconded it, and during the roll call vote all were in favor.

Review Action Plan for next meeting April 5th, 2022 @ 7 pm