

Town Hall Preservation Committee

January 31, 2023

Committee members present: Mark Dube, Brad Foley, Sarah Stapler, Betsy Steen, Rachelle Tome, Nicole Briand

Community members present: Kate Brinsmade

The Committee was called to order at 4:38 pm. Minutes from November 16, 2022, were distributed and reviewed. Motion to accept as presented from Paul B., seconded by Sarah S./Betsy; Passed-unanimously. There were no minutes for December as the committee did not meet.

The next order of business was to elect a new chair. Paul Baines was nominated by Sarah Stapler, seconded by Brad Foley. Paul was approved by unanimous vote.

Updates

- A. **Preservation Timber Framing-** No report yet. Current timeline is for a final report to be sent mid-March. It is hoped that a draft report will be ready near the end of February. Paul voice concerns about the consistency and timeliness of communications from PTF.
- B. **Construction Focus-** Paul shared his views on priorities for the work ahead, specifically from a preservation perspective. Stabilization of the building is critical; Paul outlined areas with the greatest decay. The group discussed areas of concern, including siding and heating. Paul addressed questions about vinyl siding and provided a detailed explanation of board cuts. He indicated that priorities would be repairs to the frame, then sills. Paul also shared options for flooring and heating.
- C. **Work groups-** In order to proceed efficiently, Paul suggested, and the Committee agreed that three work group be developed:
 - a. Finances
 - b. Construction
 - c. Volunteers (may not start until projects are underway)Committee members are asked to consider group needs for our February meeting.
- D. **Fund raising-** There have been no recent donations. Calendars are available for sale. Goal for next year is to have them ready for sale earlier. Exploration of grants should be ongoing, especially once the group has a clearer idea of what will be needed.
- E. **Miscellaneous-** Committee members raised concerns regarding liability for volunteer workers. Nicole indicated that the town has insurance. It was suggested that Paul and Mark create a video of Town Hall construction to share on YouTube in order to keep folks updated on progress and to increase interest. Keeping the Town updated and acquiring volunteers was also discussed. Rachelle and Betsy agreed to post regular articles for the News. Rachelle will draft something for the next issue.

Motion to adjourn, approved unanimously at 5:40 pm

Next meeting: Wednesday, 2/28/23 at 4:30 PM in the Graduate Room. The public is welcome.