

DUNBARTON TOWN HALL RESTORATION COMMITTEE

SEPTEMBER 22, 2021 MEETING MINUTES DUNBARTON TOWN OFFICES

Present: Enid Larsen, Don Larsen, Margaret Watkins, Janet Casey, Nora Lamarque, Sue Bracy
Advisor: John Stevens Guest: Mary Girard

The meeting began at 7:03 by chairperson Margaret Watkins. The minutes from the June 23rd meeting were approved. Minor corrections were made to the minutes of the July 28th meeting. (Margaret is CHAIR, not CoChair of this committee. In second paragraph, the word “access” should be “assess”, and third to last paragraph the following should be added regarding the meeting with the Library Trustees: “The committee members also answered most of the questions that the Library Trustees had raised.”) The July 28th minutes were approved.

Thoughts from the Library Trustees: Mary Girard, Librarian, said that the Trustees would like concrete written plans and that they do want to be kept in the know. They hope that the Town Hall second floor would be used only when the library is closed. The noise from the use of the upstairs affects the library use downstairs. The Trustees would like to support the Restoration Project but have a need for some concrete written policies regarding the bookings of the second floor—basically no upstairs functions when the library is open. It was suggested that the committee should meet with the Trustees to iron out these issues.

A suggestion was made that we should develop various PHASES for the use of the second floor, such as Phase One would include Community Events only, Phase Two would open up to Private Events, etc. We should list all the possibilities that can exist...what kids can do there, community members, etc...all during non-library hours.

Old Home Day Feedback: People asked about project cost and impact on taxes. Most people were positive or no comments at all. A few visitors left good donations. Cindy Pinard and Bill Zeller provided good advertising for the restoration project on their stage performances.

Upcoming Concert: An outdoor concert at the Band Stand has been organized, thanks to community member Lizz Ferdina. It will take place Sunday, October 3rd from 2 to 4. Two bands will play, Decatur Creek, a folk band from Concord and Now’s The Time, a jazz band from Northhampton. We will be collecting donations for the bands from attendees. Enid will be providing chairs from the Cusano’s. Sue has advertised with billboards, the Town marquee, the Concord Monitor and the Facebook Community Page (and will put in DES newsletter). Refreshments will be served (cider and cookies). The concert is advertised with Tours of the Second Floor starting at 1:30.

For future events to continue the momentum, Enid will look into possible Hayrides in November. In December, the committee could put lights on the Town Hall doors. On December 11th, with other events going on at DES, the committee could offer tours of the second floor. We should be thinking of other events prior to the March town meeting, that can act as a ‘booster’ prior to the warrant article. A mailing should be sent out prior to March 8 explaining how much individual tax dollars will be affected.

Treasurer’s Report: \$104,417.58 at this time but an outstanding payment to the architect of \$17,058 will leave a balance of \$87,359.58.

Next meeting is October 27 at 7 p.m.
Respectfully submitted, Sue Bracy

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.