

DTHRC Meeting October 28, 2020, Via Zoom, as Approved

Present: Don and Enid Larsen, Margaret Watkins, Shelley Westenberg, Sue Bracy, Beth Boucher, Curt McDermott, John Stevens

1) Community Input

Nov 3 elections: If we want a presence, a survey was one of the concepts. Rene is not in favor of having anything that slows the flow of voting and exiting. Timing is tight for a survey.

It was decided not to do a survey during voting and instead incorporate questions about what we'd like to know in upcoming interviews (to share via writing, video or audio).

We need to be sure we get input from people, and we need to start talking about this project more often and with a broader audience. We can use the interviews to help maintain awareness.

Shelley volunteered to do some research and reach out to people who have lived here a while to ask if they'd like to participate.

Shelley will ask Cindy Pinard (Stone), whose grandfather/uncle was the architect for the current Town Hall building, to help update the list of contacts for us to engage in collecting stories.

Subcommittee: Shelley, Curt, Don, possibly Cindy to work on this project. First identify people, then find out who would be willing to share their memories of the Town Hall and ask how they'd prefer to share their story (in writing, video or audio recording).

Don has an extra box we can use to have people sign up for a tour of the upstairs, we can answer their questions, etc. 1:1 approach. Put that message on the FB pages, and bring their voices in to our efforts.

Start by asking for input (see interviews above).

Enid will ask about the video equipment usage for the interviews. Curt may also have access to some video cameras.

2) Fundraising Efforts

Enid has prepared text for a GoFundMe for the LULA and is waiting for assistance from Tiffany Dodd.

It's not clear when we will take the project to Town meeting, and whether it would be successful at this time (financially as people are out of work, etc.), and no one is using the building currently. Moreover, the population of Dunbarton has increased, and the school population has grown significantly. Class size entering HS in Bow next year (2021) is larger than previous years. Tuition to Bow HS is increasing significantly next year. The school board is trying to cut out any fat to keep tax bills down, even so, this March, Dunbarton tax payers will have a rise in their taxes due to the school tuition at Bow.

The GoFundMe effort is centered around paying for something tangible: i.e. elevator/LULA. Issue was raised, what if the project were to fail at Town Meeting and LULA funds had been raised? On the other hand, there was concern about not continuing to fundraise using the GoFundMe page. Perhaps test the waters and use the GoFundMe page for the LULA now, and see what we get.

Enid will check on the timeframe of when we would need to use the funds raised.

3) Awareness

There was wide-ranging consideration of all types of ways to get out awareness of the project and our efforts (i.e. interviews/surveys, GoFundMe/fundraising, Progress, etc.) :

Flyers (at local places around town)

Dunbarton Community Group on Facebook

Dunbarton Town Hall Restoration Group on Facebook

Town Clerk's Office, Dump

Banners on or near Town Hall about progress, or with website: "Coming Soon", or "Restoration of Town Hall is Alive and Well", or "Let's Get Upstairs" and/or list all the updates needed– paired with website

There was also a desire that we include clear messages of progress (updated vs static banner).

Any external projects that are happening soon to give the visual that we are still working on this with a banner.

Enid brought up an idea for a scavenger hunt to engage the community.

4) Timing

Plan for March 2022 to take to Town Meeting, yet stay communicative as much as possible using awareness efforts mentioned above

By January 2021, determine messaging for awareness method(s) to keep our efforts in the public's eye.

By March 2021, implement awareness method(s).

7:40 PM: Zoom video closed. During the transition, we lost connection with Margaret. Decided to provide our summarized thoughts via email. The meeting was called to a close at 7:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Boucher