

Minutes of the 1835 Town Hall Committee

August 22, 2016

The meeting opened at 6:33 pm at the 1835 Town Hall building. Members present were Bob Jones, Dave Gibbs, Ron Pichierri, and Joann Drown. Carl Corrinne and Rob Barwise were absent.

Dave made a motion, seconded by Ron, to accept the Recorder's report as read. The Committee voted 4-0 in favor of the motion.

There was no Treasurer's report.

Bob presented an invoice for payment of the 1835 Town Hall website in the amount of \$37.99. Bob also presented an invoice for \$54.89 which was Staples (289 N. Mail St., Leominster, MA) charge for a blow-up pictures that are in the glass box to the left of the front door. Ron made a motion, seconded by Dave, to reimburse Bob for the total of \$92.88. The committee voted in favor of the motion 4-0. This money will come from the Revolving account.

Bob reported on the attempt to open up the second bay in the 2nd floor ceiling. John Kilcoyne and Bob were at the building at 8 am on August 22nd, but not Tom. Tom was uncertain about the ladder situation, and the attempt will be postponed for at least 2 weeks. Perhaps Tom Regh of Progressive Energy, Sterling, MA will be asked for his opinion.

Dave reported that he has done a great deal of research, and he presented the Committee with pictures of lifts, some of which were installed in historic buildings. The advantages of lifts are that they not only look good, can fit in a small space, and are relatively inexpensive, especially compared to an elevator. Bob stated that he thinks we could construct a ramp from the side that leads to the front door, install an automatic door opener, and a lift to go to the second floor.

Bob reported that Chuck Budnick is moving into phase 2 of the Septic project, which will include digging holes to confirm where the ditch and drainage pipe are located. The Town owns the ditch, and the property lines on each side of the ditch go up to the edge of it. It was agreed that Dave will make an appointment with Chuck Budnick and make sure everything is clearly understood, so that phase 2 can proceed.

Bob reported that we have not made any headway installing a kitchenette.

We will discuss starting a Friends of the 1835 Town Hall at a future meeting.

Bob asked Joann to set up a meeting with Lex Thomas of Meetinghouse News, in order to discuss ideas to promote the Town of Sterling's history.

After a short discussion, Ron made a motion, seconded by Bob, to name the Great Hall 'The Ebenezer Pope Great Hall'. The committee voted 4-0 in favor of the motion.

Bob asked the Committee for a date that would be convenient for everyone, to build the art holders for future use.

Joann stated that a search is on for the old window boxes, but so far they are not to be found. Ron suggested that we build two new boxes. The window boxes could have decorations in them all year long, and they would look better than the dead trees that are outside now.

Old Business: The Committee discussed how many members we have now.

New Business: The Committee discussed having an Open House on Halloween.

Dave made a motion, seconded by Ron, to adjourn the meeting. The committee voted 4-0 to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joann Drown, Recorder