

Minutes of the 1835 Town Hall Committee

November 22, 2004

The meeting opened at 6:45 p.m.

Members present: Vern Gaw, Roland Nelson, Ken Stidsen, Ron Pichierri, Cindy Secord, and Joann Drown.

The recorders report was read and accepted, on a motion made by Roland, seconded by Ken.

Treasurer's report: Maintenance account \$39,469.17.

Re-utilization account 0.

Revolving account \$295.00.

The above figures do not include grant money.

Roland will find out if there is a need to encumber money from 2004.

The treasurer's report was accepted on a motion made by Vern, seconded by Cindy.

On a recent trip to New Orleans, Vern studied and took pictures of old lamps, particularly noticing the way the lamps were attached to the buildings. He now has several ideas of how to hang a lamp correctly at the town hall building. He would prefer a single bulb lamp, with a long lasting light bulb. Cindy suggested that we find a lamp that resembles the one at the First Church, since the buildings have the same design. The lamps at the Memorial Area were also discussed. Very will talk to Devon Kurtz about what would be historically correct for the 1835 era.

Grant status: Vern invited this committee to meet with the Sterling Historical Commission on November 30, 2004, at 7:30 p.m., room 201. Proposals for the Architectural/Structural Assessment and Feasibility Study for Universal Accessibility of the 1835 Town Hall are due on that date. He would like a small committee, with members from the Historical Commission and the 1835 Town Hall Committee, to work with the chosen designer.

Sewer hookup status: Vern questioned Terry Heinold about the hookup, and was told that it will be accomplished. Terry did not include a date for the hookup, and since Gary Griffin is not present tonight, and he volunteered to follow up on this project, Vern will delve further into this situation.

Cindy reported that she saw Patricia Campbell, and Pat indicated that all remaining library property will be removed from the town hall by November 30, and the rug will be cleaned. When questioned about the bubbler, Pat volunteered to have the pipes leading to

the bubbler area removed. Since this committee would like to see a water bubbler back in place, Ron volunteered to look for a replacement bubbler.

Painting update: Ron feels that replacement clapboards will give the building a neater, cleaner appearance. He also stated that he believes that the clapboards on the building now are from the very early 1900's, not the 1800's. Cindy read a letter from Jim French, Secretary of the Historical Commission, stating that the Commission members would be interested in preserving the integrity of the 1835 Town Hall Building, by keeping the old clapboards. Vern asked if Ron would get some cost estimates for replacement clapboards, reiterating that he would like to see the old clapboards fixed and painted. Roland would like to see painting done as soon as possible.

Vern will contact John Daigle about installing cornice molding.

John Clark presented an idea to Vern about having a band concert in the town hall 2nd floor. After some discussion, it was accepted as a great idea, with thoughts of telecasting it to the 1st floor if needed. Ken stated that it would present no problem to use the 2nd floor, since we have a plan underway for an elevator, which would give everyone accessibility to the 2nd floor of the building in the near future. Other ideas were to broadcast the concert on cable television, and to have it recorded.

Developing a 'Friends of the 1835 Town Hall' will not be an easy project, as it requires volunteers, who are hard to recruit.

Vern and Cindy discussed the story board placement in the library.

Roland reported that the town of Great Barrington no longer has old fashioned lamps on the streets. He will find out what happened to that project.

Meeting adjourned at 8p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Joann Drown, Recorder.