

## **Minutes of the 1835 Town Hall Committee**

**August 30, 2004**

The meeting opened at 6:30 p.m. Members present were Vern Gaw, Roland Nelson, Ron Pichierri, Cindy Secord, and Joann Drown.

The recorders report was read and accepted with 3 corrections, on a motion made by Cindy and seconded by Ron.

There was no printed agenda for this meeting.

Vern mentioned that Judy Janda has been informed that the calendar which keeps track of all events to be held in the building is in the front hall.

It was mentioned that the trash and brush under the fire escape has not been picked up by the DPW. Roland volunteered to mention this to the DPW. Cindy reported that she sprayed the weeds along the base of the building foundation with weed killer.

Officer nominations were as follows: Vern Gaw for Chairperson, Cindy Secord for Vice Chairperson, Joann Drown for Recorder, Roland Nelson for Treasurer. Each position was voted unanimously as stated above.

There was no treasurer's report.

In reference to the list on page 2 of the July 26<sup>th</sup> recorder's report, the up-dated information is as follows.

1. Peter Watson has filled in the holes and painted the walls on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor.
2. The rug will not be cleaned, since the Fire Department's gear is in the way.
3. Bubbler still missing.
4. There is still a considerable amount of library shelving in the building.
5. The band instruments are still in the basement.
6. Many library items are still in the basement.

Vern reported on an upsetting situation involving Patricia Campbell having all the phone lines in this building disconnected, which resulted in the building not having fire protection for a period of time. He reported that he or another committee member should have been notified by Patricia Campbell that the disconnection was to take place within a certain time frame.

Cindy reported that Patricia Campbell will help our committee set up the Friends of the 1835 Town Hall, since she has had experience setting up the Friends of the Library.

Patricia Campbell has given permission to put up a storyboard in the library, which will show many interesting historical pictures of the 1835 Town Hall.

Final and confirmed information: Private groups may use the second floor of the building, public use of that floor is denied.

Vern reported that the selectmen will support an article on the September 20, 2004 Special Town Meeting, to see if the town will vote the sum of \$32,500.00 to paint the exterior walls of the building. Said sum to be used in conjunction with \$5,000.00 raised for maintenance in the May 2004 Town Meeting.

Vern also reported that there will be another article to see if the town will vote to transfer \$9,458.00 from the May 2000 Town Meeting (to study the reutilization of the old town hall), and vote the amount \$20,542.00, said sums to be used with \$10,000.00 voted on May 12, 2003 Town Meeting, (to perform a Historic Structures report and prepare preliminary design drawings for restoration and accessibility improvements to the 1835 Town Hall). The grant amount of \$10,000.00 will be paid to the town by the Massachusetts Historical Commission upon completion of the work. The sums to be expended by the Historical Commission with the design input of the 1835 Town Hall Committee. The selectmen did not state to Vern that they would support this article.

Ron expressed concern about a very ugly utility pole close to the building. He will speak to the Light Department about removing the pole, and putting the wires underground **before** the exterior painting starts.

Cindy asked Vern if he still had the newspaper article about Princeton receiving an ADA grant for their library that she had given him some time ago.

Cindy also suggested we try to continue with the outside cleanup work. Since many committee members had vacations and other commitments in September, deciding on a date to do the work was postponed.

The next committee meeting will be September 27, 2004, at 6:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joann Drown, Recorder.