

HERITAGE COMMISSION, JAN. 26, 2024

7 p.m., Tarbell Library. Members present: Mark Chamberlain. Stephanie Roper, Lou Rota, Robert Howe, Jessie Salisbury. Also Leo Trudeau.

SHOW AND RELL

Jessie had a copy of “Our American Government,” a booklet issued by the office of Cong. James Cleveland in 1963 and a copy of the Jan. 1982, issue of Firehouse Magazine which contains an article about the Lyndeborough Fire Department building their tanker.

Joe Rogers told Stephanie about the unidentified poles he found. Leo will look at them. Could they be connected with the unidentified “machinery” stored at the Town Hall?

The minutes of Oct. 27, 2023, were approved on a motion by Mark, seconded by Bobby.

The Treasurer’s report shows a year-end balance of \$5,082.17, of which \$2,000 was donated for arch bridge work.

There were several intent-to-cut forms.

REPAIR PLANS FOR CITIZENS’ AND TOWN HALL

The Selectmen have given the issue of the Town Hall engineering study to the Commission for discussion.

Jessie had a copy of “Center Hall Structural Evaluation Proposal” provided by the Town Administrator.

Bob asked if there was any way to get a grant to cover the costs. Stephanie said the best way is to ask LCHiP to do a complete survey, structural, environmental, historical, etc. Preservation Alliance grants are smaller.

Mark and Leo want to view the upstairs, which is locked. Leo said the foundation is a concern since some of the stones are “slipping.” A short discussion was held about work done upstairs, turnbuckles installed, overseen by Phil Brooks.

Stephanie suggested asking LCHIP about approved preservationists – we need somebody with experience with old buildings. The Preservation Alliance also has a list.

The Town Hall is not on the Historic Register by itself, only as part of the registered Historic District.

Mark said work on Citizens’ Hall is on the warrant for town meeting, designs for the basement and upstairs. A survey was done by Team Engineering for \$3,000. Engineering costs of the presented plan are \$10,600. The hall is listed on the National Register. It was agreed that a “sanctioned engineer” should be used. Team Engineering status will be checked.

Stephanie said she would get a list of approved engineers and consultants and Leo will talk with one or more of them. The Commission will meet on Friday, Feb. 2, at the library to come up with a recommendation for the Selectmen for their next meeting on Feb. 7.

COMMON SIGNS

Stadium Graphics has not responded to a recent email asking for progress. No work can be done until spring because of weather.

COMMUNITY DAY

The event will be held on Sunday, Aug. 25, 1 to 5 p.m., in the Center. Stephanie posted signs at the Primary Election.

Leo will act as representative of the Lafayette Artillery on the committee. The Fire Department will do the food, hot dogs and hamburgers etc., all day.

Lou said the band, "Pop Farmers," will return. His list of vendors is growing. There will be more than last year.

CHURCH PURCHASE

Stephanie said the church has approved an extension in the fundraising. Stephanie has written a letter asking for permission to have an evaluation done, which was approved by the church. A grant will be sought for a total study of the building.

Joe Rogers told Lou he noted a problem with the roof and Leo will look into it.

GIS PROJECT

Mark said no meetings have been held.

DISPLAYS AT CITIZENS' HALL

Walter Holland has acquired some pieces of Clark pottery, probably made in Francetown, and will display it in the cabinet in the town office. Jessie will update the upstairs exhibits for town meeting. It was noted that many voters had stopped to view the displays on Primary Voting Day.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was none and the meeting adjourned at 8:05.

The next regular meeting will be held on Friday, Feb. 23, 7 p.m., at the library

Secretary