

BOARD MEETING 01/24/2024 Minutes Submitted by Linda Ogden

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY FRED NYSTROM AT 6PM

Attendees

Brian Erickson	President
Steve Lux, Jr.	Vice President
David White	Treasurer
Dottie Brown	Secretary
Mark Winzeler	Director
Fred Nystrom	Director
Linda Ogden	Director
Tiffany Bauer	Guest

Treasurer's Report.

Dave will provide a new list of the accounts and breakdown of account names and functions. He will provide an explanation of the purposes of each account. Building expenses go up every year, going forward we do not want to saddle future boards with huge costs. Dave is trying to get answers from TDS and Comcast about pricing. There may be an extra \$500 in the Kearsarge Account. A vote for building the Coach Canopy was discussed the budget is \$65,000 changed to \$75,000. Treasurer's report voted on and approved 6:15 PM.

Review of Minutes

December 14, 2023, minutes voted on and accepted 6:20 PM

A unanimous vote by the board resulted in the decision to remain a museum, meeting space, community space, and tourist center.

Fundraising

We need to raise \$7,000 to \$8,000 each year to support the Depot. Dave suggested contacting Anna Wells to bring a representative from the CRA into the Hopkinton Economic Development Committee (EDC).

Fundraising Calendar:

Board members agreed that there should be ~~6~~ 7 events held to raise funds. Ideas from all members are encouraged, please take time to write down your ideas to share with all members. Linda is working on an events calendar and will make it available to all soon. Thank you.

Grants:

Fred has submitted a grant to the National Railway Historical Society (NRHS). Grants being written are: L-Chip deadline is June, a soft match for labor could be obtained. Contact the Department of transportation for a donation of \$50,000.

Discussion:

Project goals:

Depot Sidewalk and access: Depot Sidewalk and access:

The sidewalk and brick project were discussed. Plans are numerous. Easement from Lee-Ann for access. Handicap ramp placement and construction plans were discussed. The sidewalk and brick project were discussed. Plans are numerous. Handicap ramp placement and construction plans were discussed. Several ideas that LeAnn and Meridith

would like to pursue. Plans include tables and benches for visitors to enjoy a Bistro-like atmosphere. The Bricks would be placed on the sidewalk area. A variance would be needed.

Platform area ideas include handicap ramp. The layout could be accomplished at the north end of the building, Funds could be raised by contacting veteran's organizations and Granite State Independent Living. Replace or repair all steps to the building and coach.

Elevator/Depot Cleanout:

There are some very heavy items to be removed from upstairs and the attic. We are hoping to have the elevator up and running. Brian will send a message to scrappers as we decide what to keep and what to dispose of. Brian knows an expert that may help with the elevator project and will contact him as soon as possible for repairs and inspection. The elevator needs electrical work to find a short and figure out what is wrong with the batteries. The elevator system is a complicated twenty-four- and twelve-volt system.

The Coach:

Leave the coach covered and raise funds for a protective canopy. Meetings with the town planning board for variances are important. Steve will be working on negotiations with the town to cover the sidewalk, canopy, and platform. Canopy wood may be donated by local lumber. Wooden platforms were used when passenger rail traffic was used. Funds may be available through the Department of Transportation or the State Organization that currently owns the bridge.

Section House:

Plans to roof the section house are in the works. Emerson Cayer will be doing the work.

Bricks:

Ordering of bricks discussion included buying wholesale direct from a brick making company, cutting out a go-between. A brick engraving company is in Bow, NH. PaveLock Fred or Dave will ask Tim Blagdon for ideas on a supplier. Currently the cost of bricks is all brick information, pricing bricks will be updated. Bricks must be fade proof, waterproof. Ideas include ordering bricks directly from a brick making company. The brick engraving company is in Bow, NH. Pav Lock. Phone numbers and contacts are needed. Fred or Dave will ask Tim Blagdon for ideas on a supplier.

Staffing for Depot Museum:

Steve is contacting the Kearsarge Chamber of Commerce with a conclusive report, number of visitors, staffing hours. Moths included for the years of 2021, 2022 and 2023. This report is helpful to understand staffing needs. Linda is updating the visitor guest book. Please encourage guests to sign the book. The Depot visitor record sheet for staff/volunteers to use will be included in the updated notebook used on days that we are open. It is recommended that there be two board members as coordinators.

To do List:

Meeting Closed at 9:00 PM