

Meeting House Relocation & Renovation Building Committee

Date: July 1, 2014. 6 PM to 8:10 PM

Attendees: Robert Sirpenski (Selectman), Jack Wesa, Greg Gardella, Doug Forrest, Peggy Morningstar, Rachel Ricardo & Ty Cool

Peter Zvingilas, Zoning Enforcement Officer

1. Elected/unanimous:

Chairperson-Jack Wesa

Vice-Chairperson-Doug Forrest

Secretary-Peggy Morningstar

2. Meetings will be held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6 PM.

3. The purpose of this committee is to "explore the feasibility of moving the Methodist Church Meeting House building on 2 Church Street to the Town property adjacent to the Town Hall and renovating the structure". The committee will prepare a final report including a cost estimate for the project and the committee will forward it's recommendation/s to the Board of Selectman. The project if approved by the Board of Selectman & the town is expected to commence by spring/summer 2015.

4. Various ideas concerning the use of the church were discussed. Committee members were requested to bring ideas in writing to the next meeting.

5. Questions arose regarding it's historical value, should the church be relocated off of it's original/present location.

6. The committee will prepare 4 options: save/renovate the structure on it's present location, move the structure across the street near to the Town Hall, disassemble/re-assemble it or demolish it.

7. The group agreed to keep an open mind. Ty Cool discussed Yale University's assistance to The Save the Church group as the group takes steps to become a 501C3 organization. EDC Members attended a grant workshop & learned a 501c needed (contributions are a tax benefit & there is nationwide interest for historical preservation.

8. The committee looked at potential sites adjacent to the town hall. Peter Zvingilas, Zoning Enforcement Officer, encouraged the group to bring specific requests to him with appropriate, supporting information so that he could better address our questions. Some questions addressed moving the building underneath utility lines, heat, climate controls, restroom facilities, foundation requirements & zoning questions addressing historical buildings.

9. We discussed the cost of securing utilities (AT&T, CL&P, Comcast) should the building be moved but we will hold on this until other information is obtained.

10. Other items discussed were costs related to the building such as costs related to housekeeping, facility management, staffing, Historical Society involvement, fund raising & concern about a sloping floor and concave ceiling.

11. Plan:

- Ty Cool will contact a RI contractor regarding the foundation.

- Ty Cool will contact the State of CT regarding moving/relocating the church as it relates to the Historical Trust.

- Rachel Ricardo will look for previous quotes which should be in the town hall (demolition and moving quotes).

- Ty Cool will look for information about renovation in place.

- Ty Cool will arrange for a meeting house inspection.

- Members are requested to bring ideas for church use to the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Morningstar