

MEET ME IN SUNCOOK!

Meeting Minutes

November 2, 2021

Present: Jocelyn Carlucci (co-chair), Noreen Bean, Gerry Belanger, Joyce Belanger, Joan Bussiere, Norma Daviault, Ron Daviault, Stephen Fowler, Julia Yunker Miller, Jerry Vincent.

1. Co-chair Jocelyn Carlucci called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. in the former Fire and Police Station at 4 Union Street in Pembroke, NH. Jerry Vincent served as assistant secretary in the absence of Jim Garvin.
2. Prior minutes of the 10/5/2021 meeting were corrected and amended. Ron Daviault moved to approve, Joyce Belanger seconded. Motion passed.
3. Treasurer's report was given by Noreen Bean. Balances are as follows: \$4534.52 previous balance. Collected since our last meeting has been a total of \$1225.00 of which a very generous contribution in the amount of \$1000.00 from the family of Joan Bussiere. Our new balance is now \$5759.52. Jerry Vincent moved to accept, seconded by Julia Yunker Miller. Motion passed.
4. Facebook issue, public vs. private. The current status is private. This limits access to potential individuals who might be interested in becoming members. Currently membership is possible only through personal invitation extended by current members. Public status allows anyone, worldwide, to post and participate on our page. The consensus among those present is to remain private and use any and all available means to publicize the group.
5. Historical Suncook Village sign issue was addressed by Jim Garvin through an email copy of minutes from Fall 2016 and Spring 2017 along with minutes from meeting #'s 144, 145, and 146. These minutes outline the criteria needed to accomplish this goal. Stephen Fowler asked "what comes along with a Historical District Declaration". There was some

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discussion but ultimately no final answer. Suggestion was made to contact Dave Jodoin for clarification, but no one volunteered to contact him.

6. Newsletter update: Jocelyn received Pembroke's Voter Checklist from the Town and informed us that it contains over 4000 names. This list would serve as a basis for our newsletter mailings. The newsletter committee plans to actively start on the project on 1/1/2022. A suggestion was made to insert notices on the town website to publicize the newsletter.
7. The MMIS Mission Statement will be reviewed and discussed at a future meeting when more members are present.
8. Maintenance Fund. The question was directed to Town Administrator David Jodoin and he responded with the following:

Response to query by Pembroke Town manager David Jodoin

Question: Jerry Belanger asked how much did the Town of Pembroke appropriate and deposit into the Town Clock Fund for 2020 Maintenance. Also asked was how much did the Town expend in 2020. What was done? Who spent the money? It was suggested we could get this information on our own starting with minutes of Town committee meetings as well as minutes of the annual 2020 Town Meeting as printed in the Town Report.

Response: For Gerry's questions:

The Town appropriated the \$5000 that MMIS requested in 2021's budget. No repairs have taken place yet because there just isn't enough money.

The Selectmen asked Public Works to get an itemized list of what needed to be fixed. Jim presented that I believe at your last meeting. The Selectmen has some questions that still need to be addressed clearly. Some items on the list seem repetitive and some items drew a lot of discussion like replacing a beam with Mahogany. The Board questioned why spending so much for something that no one will see.

I also asked what it would cost to do it all at once. A large expense yearly is the mobilization cost and renting the list. We need that in writing.

(Response cont'd.)

As you can imagine it did not fare well when it was up for voting as part of the Capital Improvement Meetings. I do have to give them credit though, they went up and looked at the mechanisms and other items.

The concern now is that the \$5000 a year will never be enough. In order to fund this it would need to be more like \$25-30K a year.

Last discussion from the Selectmen was that they thought it was best to take this to the voters explaining what the cost will be and it will be forever. They discussed along with CIP drafting a warrant article asking the Town if they wished to keep rehabbing the clock and putting a dollar value on it.

I am sure that this will be another discussion at Budget.

I've copied VJ and Bob here from DPW because they should reach out to Mr. Doherty and get in writing the cost to do all at once, and have him explain the duplicate items yearly and the mahogany bean issue.

Thanks

David

New Business

- Members brought up the topic of "Christmas in the Village" and what MMIS can do to help. In past years Stephen Fowler has provided his tractor for the hayrides and stated he will do so again this year. Discussed was the idea that volunteers from our group wear name tags featuring the clock symbol to help identify and promote the group. Jocelyn Carlucci will check with the Pembroke Women's Club to see if this would be acceptable. A motion was made by Joan Bussiere and seconded by Noreen Bean to donate \$250.00 to the Women's Club to support this annual event. Motion Passed.

- The topic of our annual Christmas Party was discussed and suggestions were made as to where it should be held. Town restaurants were mentioned and there were many pros and cons about the different locations specifically could they accommodate the size of the group, Covid related issues and in some instances will they still be in business (Madears). The Red Blazer was suggested and someone will be in contact with the restaurant for availability on 12/7.
- Jerry Vincent suggested that we should contact WMUR TV's Fritz Wetherbee to see if he would do a "Chronicle" segment on the Town Clock. This would bring attention to its location, history and its current state of needed repairs. Hopefully the segment would air sometime before the Town Meeting and possibly generate a favorable reaction needed to have funding approved by the residents. It was mentioned that Jim Garvin has previously worked alongside Fritz Wetherbee on a segment. Jerry Vincent will contact Jim to see if he could contact Fritz and if not then he could direct us in the proper direction to achieve this goal.
- Ron Daviault spoke about a video he recently watched about the "Merrimack River at Risk" which was a production of the NH Forest Society and the Conservation Commission. He suggested that MMIS could sponsor a viewing of this video at this location with the intended goal of perhaps gaining new members. The program he watched was presented by the Massachusetts Save the Merrimack Society, contact person Ryan Smith.
- Noreen Bean reluctantly informed the group that she is resigning her position as Treasurer. She has held this position since 1999. The group was sorry to see her resign and thanked her for the job she has done.

Motion to adjourn by Gerry Belanger, seconded by Ron Daviault. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jerry Vincent, Assistant Sect'y

