

MEET ME IN SUNCOOK!

**Meeting Minutes
September 7, 2021**

Present: Butch Ayles, Marie Ayles, Noreen Bean, Gerry Belanger, Joyce Belanger, Melaine Boisvert (co-chair), Jocelyn Carlucci (co-chair), Jackie Clark, Norma Daviault, Ron Daviault, Jim Garvin, Lorraine Good, Glorie Jacob, Louis Jacob, Jeanne Letendre, Isabelle Racine, Jerry Vincent.

1. Co-chairs Melaine Boisvert and Jocelyn Carlucci called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the old Pembroke Fire and Police Station.
2. The committee agreed to schedule future meetings on the first Tuesdays of the month at 6:00 p.m.
3. Election of officers:
Melaine Boisvert and Jocelyn Carlucci agreed to co-chair the committee.
Secretary Jim Garvin announced that his obligations had increased substantially and that he could not promise to remain as secretary. Jerry Vincent agreed to consider serving as assistant secretary.
Noreen Bean agreed to try to continue as treasurer with the hope that we can find an assistant treasurer.
Marie Ayles agreed to serve as assistant treasurer.
4. Jim Garvin passed around the *Meet Me in Suncook* mailing list to allow all present to check their contact information for updating the list.
5. The committee agreed to advertise the next meeting in the *Town Crier*.
6. Jim Garvin reviewed the history of the restoration and upkeep of the Clocktower since 1998. He pointed out that the tower and the clock mechanism have now been evaluated and are in need of substantial repairs, as follows:

A. A proposal from Philip D'Avanza of Goffstown to replace the electric clock mechanism at a price of \$8,915. The current electric clock/bell striker was installed in 2000 and is failing.

Install new MI drive motor, 99B automatic clock controller, 35 lb. bell hammer actuator, synchronize clock faces and set to correct time, install proper wiring, provide operation manual and instruct town personnel in use of the manual.

B. A proposal from Target New England for a multi-year maintenance/restoration program on the tower itself. Target New England restored the tower in 2,000-1.

Year 1: \$15,225 Cleaning, secure posts, reinforce clock platform and tower floor, repair roofing and flashing, repair failing paint on clock dial, repaint exterior of tower as needed.

Year 2: \$22,425 Same plus check reinforced floors, secure ladders and safety rails, check ventilating fan and thermostat, repair failing paint remove old bell cribbing and replace with mahogany.

Year 3: \$16,825 Same plus remove old bell rope wheel and repair or replace wheel

Year 4: \$35,575 Same plus ten-year repainting of clocktower.

Year 5: \$10,105 Same plus check paint condition.

Total: \$101,155

After inspecting the clocktower during their field tour on August 5th, the Pembroke Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Committee met to score proposals and to recommend capital reserve funding for various capital needs of the town, including road improvements, vehicle purchases, cemetery upkeep, etc. The clocktower proposal placed before the CIP Committee for 2022 was:

\$15,225 For Target New England's first-year proposal for cleaning, securing posts, reinforcing clock platform and tower floor, repair roofing and flashing, repair failing paint on clock dial, repaint exterior of tower as needed.

\$8,915. Philip D'Avanza's proposal to install new MI drive motor, 99B automatic clock controller, 35 lb. bell hammer actuator, to synchronize clock faces and set to correct time, install proper wiring, provide operation manual and instruct town personnel on its use.

The CIP Committee scored these two proposals as "medium" to "low."

The same proposals will be considered by the Budget Committee and the Board of Selectmen, so we do not yet know how these clocktower proposals will appear on the Town Warrant for the March 2022 Town Meeting.

The committee discussed various options to obtain the funding outlined above. Jocelyn noted that town administrator David Jodoin had suggested funding some or all of the currently need repairs from town financial reserves. The meeting discussed offering to purchase the tower above the roof of the main building. The tower is currently under a 99-year lease by the Town of Pembroke, and the fact that it is not owned by the town has disqualified the structure from some grant programs. There was a suggestion of contacting developers Brady Sullivan Properties, who are currently rehabilitating China Mill.

Jocelyn asked whether anyone had a copy of the records kept by Roger Menard on the sale of minutes on the clock dials. Jocelyn agreed to ask Roger if he still wants to be in charge of selling minutes. If not, we need to find someone else to maintain the list and determine which minutes have previously been sold.

7. Noreen Bean presented the treasurer's report, as follows:

Noreen noted that the last regular meeting of *Meet Me in Suncook* had been on November 5, 2019.

Checkbook balance on November 5, 2019:	\$5,846.52
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Income since November 5, 2019:

Membership dues	\$30.00
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Expenses since November 5, 2019:

Post Office Box 1 rental for 6 months	\$38.00
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Cincinnati Insurance Company policy	525.00
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Post Office Box 1 rental for 6 months	38.00
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Membership dues, N. H. Preservation Alliance	50.00
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New Hampshire Department of State, nonprofit report filing	25.00
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Post Office Box 1 rental for 6 months	45.00
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Cincinnati Insurance Company policy	525.00
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Post Office Box 1 rental for 6 months	45.00
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Membership dues, N. H. Preservation Alliance	50.00
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Checkbook balance on September 7, 2021:	\$4,534.52
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8. Melaine Boisvert asked Jim Garvin to give an update on a historical sign that is scheduled to be installed near the Main Street bridge, together with banners for the light poles on or near the bridge.

The proposed breaching of the Pembroke Mill (Emerson Condominiums) dam, intended to reduce the danger of flood damage to the former Pembroke Mill (now the Emerson Condominiums) in Suncook Village, was outlined for the members of the *Meet Me in Suncook* Committee in *Meet Me in Suncook* Minutes 156, dated December 2018.

According to plan, the dam was partially breached during the summer of 2020. Mitigation to compensate for partial removal of the historic dam was outlined in a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and the New Hampshire State Historic Preservation Office.

The Memorandum of Agreement requires Pembroke Hydro Associates Limited Partnership, a Subsidiary of Eagle Creek Renewable Energy, which applied for the permit to breach the dam, to:

- Fund the completion of design, fabrication, and installation of an interpretive sign to be located in the vicinity of Pembroke Mill [Emerson Condominiums]. Location of the sign will be in consultation with the New Hampshire SHPO and local municipalities. . . The signage will provide information on the Pembroke Dam and its association with the Pembroke Mill and milling context in the region.
- Fund the design and installation of no more than 6 banners to be placed along the bridge over the Pembroke Dam. The banners will convey the milling history of the area.

Jim distributed mockups of the proposed sign and the banners. No firm date or location for the installation has been announced.

9. Melaine asked Jim to report on a proposed historical marker that will be placed near the State Historical Marker at the Methodist Church to commemorate the visit of the Marquis de Lafayette to Pembroke. The Lafayette Trail commemorates the travel route followed by the Marquis de Lafayette during his tour of New Hampshire in 1825. During that visit, on June 21, 1825, Lafayette visited Caleb Stark at his home in Suncook Village and stayed that night at the former Fisk Tavern on Pembroke Street, a short distance toward Concord from the present Pembroke Town Hall.

At their meeting on May 19th, the Pembroke Board of Selectmen approved the placement of a Lafayette Trail marker at the northwest corner of Main Street and Union Street in Suncook Village. The marker will be near the Suncook Village State Historical Marker that *Meet Me in Suncook* sponsored in 2002. Members of *Meet Me in Suncook* may want to attend the unveiling ceremony when the date is announced.

10. The committee discussed the possibility of re-starting the *Meet Me in Suncook* newsletter, noting that the newsletter offered excellent publicity for the work of *Meet Me in Suncook*.

The committee agreed to postpone a more detailed discussion of the newsletter until the October meeting.

11. Regarding member dues for *Meet Me in Suncook*, Melaine suggested that we should have a single, uniform dues structure of \$15.00 per year. Dues should be paid by April 15, 2022. She requested that anyone who has not paid dues for 2021 should try to pay \$15.00 before the October meeting.

The next meeting will be at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 5, 2021 at the old Pembroke Fire and Police Station.

Respectfully submitted,
James L. Garvin, Secretary

Jerry Vincent, Assistant Secretary