

Harwinton House Committee

Minutes of Meeting

February 12, 2015

The regular meeting of the Harwinton House Committee was held in the west meeting room of Town Hall on Thursday, February 12, 2015.

After establishing a quorum chairman Roger Plaskett called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Committee members present were Roger Plaskett, Charlie Kirchofer, Carole Romano, Brian Dunbar, Matt Szydlo, Nancy Schnyer, Tom Rotondo, and Larry Connors. Also present was Greg Farmer of Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation.

Minutes of the September 25, 2014 regular meeting were approved on motion by Carole and second by Brian.

Roger reviewed a summary of dates, mileposts and architect's remarks during the long and unsatisfactory project of drawing and specification development by Amaya Architects. At the simplest level, Amaya promised completion by October 2013. Now over 15 months later, completion is still only anticipated. The first set of drawings has now been submitted for review.

Roger acknowledged cause for some delay, but admonished Amaya for its many misleading promises that proved to be false. The committee asked Greg to inform Connecticut Trust of our experience in order to avoid a similar experience by the Trust or their other clients. Larry added his disillusionment with Roy Gilley, whose presence was key in the selection of Amaya Architects but apparent absence during development failed to move the project to satisfactory completion.

The drawings being more complex and technical than several committee members could meaningfully review, Greg suggested a subcommittee of the most qualified members might be charged with doing that work. Charlie as chairman, Brian, Tom and Matt were named as the subcommittee, to meet at 3:00 PM on Monday, February 16. A quick run-through of the drawings was done, and several incomplete labels and descriptions were noted. Greg pointed out places where it should be noted the house is on the State Registry of Historic Places and/or the project must comply with Secretary of the Interior Standards.

Greg stated we remain alive with the Connecticut Trust as they are aware we, the Town of Harwinton, have not caused the excessive delays, but rather our consultant has.

It was noted by members that we have not yet received the detailed specifications that Amaya, in mid-June 2014, promised by August 1, 2014, nor have we received any cost information.

On motion by Brian and second by Matt the meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM.

Submitted by Larry Connors, Secretary

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