Harwinton House Committee Minutes of Meeting April 24, 2014

The regular meeting of the Harwinton House Committee was held in the west meeting room of Town Hall on Thursday, April 24, 2014.

After establishing a quorum chairman Roger Plaskett called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM. Committee members present were Roger Plaskett, Charlie Kirchofer, Tom Rotondo, Nancy Schnyer, Brian Dunbar, Matt Szydlo and Larry Connors. Also present were Bonnie and Dennis Andrews representing Harwinton Historical Society.

Minutes of the March 27 meeting were accepted as presented pursuant to motion by Nancy and second by Tom.

Roger has been corresponding with Jane Montanaro of Connecticut Trust regarding the HPTAG and our inability to meet with them as we don't yet have full architect's plans. He will update Jane tomorrow requesting an extension to the grant.

We received email from Amaya architects today explaining the drawings are 70 percent complete and they will not attend tonight's meeting. Roger pointed out that Amaya promised completion in February which was itself a repromise. Members of the committee expressed disillusionment with Amaya's failure to deliver.

Roger presented his PowerPoint to the Board of Selectmen last week, accompanied by three committee members. He stressed the financial difficulties and lack of answers and acknowledged the political fallout likely to attach to any of the options before the Board. Nancy pointed out the Selectmen have acknowledged their obligation to follow through on projects begun in a predecessor's term even if they don't subscribe to them. The issue of funding to continue or to end our project may end in a referendum. Having posed several questions to the Selectmen in the presentation, Roger email Mike Criss on April 23 asking for answers. Nancy will follow up for those answers.

It is our position no waivers will be necessary regarding volunteer workers for insurance matters.

At the request of Joann Ryan from the Chamber of Commerce and endorsed by Michael Criss, Roger has become Harwinton's Town Ambassador to the Chamber. He believes we will have an opportunity to display printed materials at the Chamber's lobby. This relationship should improve wider exposure to our House project.

Regarding Harwinton Historical Society, Roger may be presenting a tailored version of his PowerPoint to HHS soon, date and confirmation yet to be received. Considerable discussion ensued over the three-way relationship among the Town (Board of Selectmen), HHS, and our committee. Nancy and Bonnie will attempt to obtain HHS commitment to a presentation, possible as early as Monday next. The committee favors a three party meeting at which each party should present its needs, limitations, desires, etc., and open discussion seeks to resolve issues and provide assurances.

Roger reported no success in his attempt to get involvement from Daryl Oates....yet.

Matt observed we need to build a plan with names, dates and deliverables in order to move forward. It was pointed out that was done, in part, in the presentation to the Selectmen. As stated earlier, Nancy will follow up on that.

On motion by Brian and second by Nancy the meeting was adjourned at 8:19 PM.

RECEIVED FOR RECORD AT HARWINTON CT ON Y-25-14 AT 8:30 AM ATTEST NANCY E. ELDRIDGE TOWN CLERK