

**Harwinton House Committee**  
**Minutes of Meeting**  
**May 15, 2014**

The regular meeting of the Harwinton House Committee was held in the west meeting room of Town Hall on Thursday, May 15, 2014.

After establishing a quorum chairman Roger Plaskett called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Committee members present were Roger Plaskett, Charlie Kirchofer, Tom Rotondo, Nancy Schnyer, Brian Dunbar, Matt Szydlo, Peter Thierry, and Larry Connors. Also present was Ellie Woike representing Harwinton Historical Society.

All correspondence since last meeting had been forwarded to members by email, specifically that between Roger and Jane Montonaro, Roger and Bristol Historical Society, and Roger and Michael Sileo of Amaya Architects.

Amaya is once again unable to attend tonight's meeting and has again failed to complete its work, now about seven months beyond the date promised, a fact Roger has pointed out.

At the May 6 Selectmen's meeting an "informal discussion" of our project and recommendations was held. Michael Criss mentioned that "maybe" we wouldn't have to pay back the STEAP grant if we decided to discontinue the project. He thinks the grant transfer and the Town Meeting vote were to bring the house back to Harwinton. He said he believes if we are to follow the phased approach it must be brought to a Town Meeting to be voted on. No action was taken so we have no further guidance concerning going forward, and nothing in writing has been received from the board.

Harwinton Historical Society board of directors has reiterated its support for the project but no written declaration has been received.

The committee is not unanimous in pursuing the "weather tight shell" approach, at least not without a commitment from the Selectmen that financial support will be forthcoming to ensure the eventual completion of the project for the good of the Town. We need the Selectmen to commit to completion and the money to accomplish it. We need a stated direction and actions to support that direction by the Board of Selectmen. Nancy will ask that the issue be placed again on the agenda for the May 27 Selectmen's meeting.

Larry made a motion, seconded by Nancy and approved by vote, that a letter be sent by Roger explaining our expectation of a decision and commitment of necessary financial support from the Selectmen, based on the options described in his recent presentation to them, from their May 27 meeting.

There was substantial positive feedback from Roger's recent PowerPoint based presentation to the HHS members.

Roger mentioned his meeting Jane Montonaro at the recent conference he attended in Hartford. At that conference he learned there is no requirement that a restoration be done to the date of the original building so our target date is fine, as would have been another date, such as 1931 in our case. Such a date might have increased our percentage of salvaged materials.

Tom questioned if Greg Farmer might be of assistance in our project. It was felt he might be once we have the anticipated commitment and wherewithal for progress. He has been kept aware of our situation through meeting minutes.

Larry made a motion, seconded by Nancy and approved by vote, to move forward with lot layout for purposes of clearing the land. Larry was appointed to organize the in-kind task.

On motion by Nancy and second by Peter the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Submitted by Larry Connors, Secretary

RECEIVED FOR RECORD AT HARWINTON CT  
ON 5-16-14 AT 8:30 AM  
ATTEST NANCY E. ELDRIDGE TOWN CLERK