

Committee Members

Roger Plaskett
Tom Rotondo
Brian Dunbar
Larry Connors
Dick Pacholski
Peter Thierry
Carole Romano
Nancy Schnyer
Keith Golnik

Greg Farmer - Consultant



HARWINTON HOUSE COMMITTEE

Minutes

February 22, 2012

A meeting of the Harwinton House Committee was held on Wednesday, February 22, 2012 in the West Conference Room.

Chairman Roger Plaskett called the meeting to order at 6:58 PM. All members listed on the letterhead were in attendance except for Carole Romano and Keith Golnik.

The minutes of the February 8 meeting were approved on a motion by Larry Connors, seconded by Tom Rotondo.

Dick Pacholski reported on the status of the letter of intent. He met with First Selectman Michael Criss to review a draft of the letter of intent. Dick's comments were to be passed on to Town Attorney Mike Rybak for inclusion. The letter of intent will then be presented to the Board of Selectmen and the Harwinton Historical Society for their consideration.

Chairman Roger Plaskett read a series of letters and emails regarding the current budget format for the STEAP grant and the need to revise it. Roger will work on the budget revisions and present them to Mike Criss

for his consideration and approval. Grant reimbursements are dependent on an approved revised budget.

There is no change in the spending matrix since the last meeting.

Dick Pacholski reported on the special historical society Board of Directors meeting on the topic of fundraising. Per Greg Farmer's advice, the emphasis will be on attracting major fundraisers. Work on a letter of solicitation is underway. The society is not planning any major summer concert type fundraising due to a lack of manpower. There are a variety of smaller type fundraisers underway. The society will be organizing support activities from the school district, library and Economic Development Committee. Plans for a major fundraising roll out event are underway with the expectation that consistent fundraising and promotion events will follow.

Existing STEAP status was discussed with no action being taken.

Larry Connors presented an updated draft of the RFP for proposals to provide engineering services to accommodate a feasibility evaluation and a project plan to rebuild the Harwinton House. Dick Pacholski will forward it to Mike Criss for his comments.

Preliminary house plans review featured discussion of a salt box type addition at the rear of the house and consideration of artificial versus natural light issues.

A discussion of the estimate to erect a weatherproofed shell resulted in a revised estimate of \$300,000 based on no volunteer effort and no serious unforeseen construction issues. The estimate is needed to provide a fundraising goal.

Safety concerns in conjunction with a community barn raising approach were raised. The question of whether enough qualified, skilled volunteers were available was discussed. Dick Pacholski reported that Greg Farmer made him aware of a Timber Framing Guild that is willing

to embark on selective partnerships to promote timber framing training. Education and economic development grant money may be available for that type of venture. Even though we are not prepared to apply, Dick will contact the guild to get on their radar screen for a potential partnership. The committee will continue to consider the independent barn raising approach also.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 on a motion by Brian Dunbar, seconded by Nancy Schnyer.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Pacholski, Secretary

RECEIVED FOR RECORD AT HARWINTON, CT
ON *2-29-12* AT *1:34pm*
ATTEST: PATRICIA K. WILLIAMSEN, TOWN CLERK