Harwinton House Committee

Minutes of Meeting

May 21, 2012

The regular meeting of the Harwinton House Committee was held in the West Meeting Room of Town Hall on Monday, May 21st, 2012.

After establishing a quorum chairmen Roger Plaskett called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. Present were Roger Plaskett, Peter Thierry, Carole Romano, Brian Dunbar, Tom Rotondo, Nancy Schnyer, and Larry Connors.

Minutes of the May 7th meeting were approved on a motion by Larry and second by Carole. Larry was appointed scribe for the meeting.

Larry reported that Tom Schoenemann and Charles Kirchofer each responded favorably when asked if interested in being a member of this committee. Monday meetings are difficult for both, but Chairman Roger suggested we can make their availability work. Larry motioned and Peter seconded to recommend the appointments of Tom Schoenemann and Charles Kirchofer as members of this committee to the Selectmen. The vote in favor was unanimous. Chairman Roger will so inform the Board of Selectmen.

Correspondence was received from Candace Jones-Pacholski regarding availability of Thomaston Savings Bank grants and suggesting we apply for a grant to defray the cost of an A-2 survey for the area where we hope to erect the House. It was pointed out the Town must already have such a survey to have developed and built on the property. Roger will reply to Candace suggesting the wording "toward engineering expense" as an alternative.

Regarding the budget revision, Roger has executed all required revised documents and provided the information to Mike Criss, who is in correspondence with Cheryl at DECD.

We have not received any funds in reimbursement yet, nor was there any new spending since last meeting.

Discussion ensued on the latest draft RFP which is greatly changed from the document we worked on in February and submitted in March. The meeting surmised many of the changes may reflect Attorney Rybak's knowledge of mandatory wording. At the members' suggestion, Roger will work on turning our original draft RFP into a cover letter for the Board's RFP. He'll also red-line the draft given to us where our discussion suggested modification.

Copies of the letter of intent signed between the Town and the Harwinton Historical Society were distributed.

The only update from Harwinton Historical Society was favorable feedback regarding our demonstration of hand-cutting a pegged mortise and tenon joint as used in Harwinton House original framing.

The long-standing issue with Stansfield has been resolved by receipt of a current date letter that we believe will satisfy DECD requirements.

We discussed further the possible need for anything we are planning to go to referendum. It appears it will not be required but Roger will remind Mike Criss of our desire for a reply, whatever the decision.

The timeline document was reviewed, noting the dates in the Selectmen's draft RFP are within the timeline document.

Roger will email Dick Pacholski about holding a ceremonial signing of the letter of intent for publicity reasons.

The meeting adjourned at 8 PM.

Submitted by Larry Connors, Acting Scribe