

Calais Historic Preservation Commission

CALAIS TOWN OFFICE

November 11, 2015

Present: David Schutz, Syver Rogstad, Scott Bassage, Larry Bush, Ernest Parrish

Absent: Susan Bartlett, Curtis Johnson, Reed Cherington

Others present: Reenie DeGeus, Mary Labate Rogstad, Gail Graham, Jan Ohlsson, Cy Lamberton

David Schutz called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Approval of previous meeting minutes.

We approved the minutes of October 14, 2015

Discussion of status and next steps with the members of the Town Hall Task Force.

Lisa and the Town Hall Task Force talked some about the survey. We mailed about 600 survey to Calais households. We have 187 completed surveys including returned paper surveys and online surveys.

The preliminary finding is that people are worried about spending money because their taxes are already too high, but people would like to see the downstairs of the Town Hall used for board and committee meetings. People would like to know what it will cost.

The final report will be available by December 21st and will include recommendations for funding.

The task force will present the report to the Selectboard on December 28th at a meeting at 7PM in the Rec Center .

Arc and Arrow will recommend a presentation for Town Meeting by the Task Force. The task force may ask to have an article asking for approval to use Town Hall reserve fund money for match for a major planning grant in 2016.

Jan commented that should let the public know that the Town Hall is going to be a fairly long term project in a time frame of five to ten years.

HPC Housekeeping

We talked about finding a new member of HPC to replace (the irreplaceable) Chris Cochran. Larry volunteered to talk to his new neighbor, Susana Blatchley. We also discussed the possibility that there would be another vacancy in March when Reed has said he will probably leave the HPC.

We appointed Larry to be the new vice-chair of HPC.

CLG Grant 2014 Status

Ernie told us that the contractor for the windows (Jamie) has gotten behind. Jamie has move the operation to a nearby heated location and hopes to have the three windows on the West side of the building back in place by December. Others in the group thought that Spring is a more likely time to see the windows back.

Scott submitted the final grant report at the end of September. We have asked CLG to reimburse the town for \$10,830.

CLG Grant 2015 Status

We have about \$19,320 available for the 2015. Lisa's contract is for an estimated cost of \$14,800. We would like to use any money left over after paying Lisa for more detailed estimate of the cost of heat for the lower floor.

Scott has been approving the monthly invoices from the contractor(three invoices at \$2,960 each or \$8,880 to date).

We still have not resolved whether the building is within the FEMA flood hazard zone and/or whether the building is in the Vermont Fluvial Erosion Hazard zone. John McCullough is working on it.

The next meeting of the Town Hall Task Force is **at the Town Office** on Wednesday December 2nd

The next meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission is **at the Town Office** Wednesday December 9th