

Historic Preservation Commission Meeting Minutes
February 10, 2015
DRAFT

Present: HPC members David Schutz, Reed Cherington, Syver Rogstad, Scott Bassage
Absent: Susan Weber, Chris Cochran, Ernest Parrish, Curtis Johnson

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

1. Approval of previous meeting minutes.

The minutes of December 16, 2014 were approved. Bassage, Rogstad.

2. CLG grant application (due Feb 17th)

David told us about his meeting with Lisa Ryan, Field Service representative for the Preservation Trust of Vermont. Lisa provides technical assistance with preservation projects. She will add Calais to the towns she helps. http://www.ptvermont.org/field_service_program.php

Lisa has a history of success with projects like ours. She led the process of restoring the Plainfield town hall. There are many similarities between Plainfield Town Hall in the 1990s and Calais Town Hall now.

Under Lisa Ryan's leadership, the Plainfield project received grants from (1)The Agency of Commerce & Community Development Community Block Grant program , (2)USDA Community Facilities Direct Loan and Grant Program in Vermont, and (3) the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board Historic Preservation Program, Preservation of Outstanding Historic Buildings for Community Use. Plainfield voters appropriated money at Town Meeting and Lisa's group raised some money privately. Lisa will help us go after similar funding.

1. http://accd.vermont.gov/strong_communities/opportunities/funding/vcdp#
2. <http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities-direct-loan-grant-program/vt>
3. <http://www.vhcb.org/historic-preservation.html>

By February 17th we need to apply for the CLG Grant for ten to fifteen thousand dollars. The grant will pay for consultants. The consultants will help us involve groups of residents, develop a plan to make the Town Hall more useful and identify funding sources. The grant would also pay for consulting work from Arnold and Scangas to update their 2013 report based on the new uses for the building. David will write the grant with help from Scott.

The foundation is the next major task, but before we begin restoring the foundation we need to know how the building will be used.

David handed out copies of the results of the Plainfield Town Hall survey.

3. Information about Town Hall for Town Meeting (March 3rd)

David will assemble a display of pictures of the Town Hall. Reed and Syver will search for Historic pictures of the building such as that found on page 85 of *Forever Calais*. Scott will work on the website and a slide show. We still need someone to compose a handout about the why Calais Town Hall needs our love and why we should love it.

4. Additional member for HPC Committee.

David will ask Larry Bush to apply to the selectboard to be the new member of the Calais Historic Preservation Commission.

Next Meeting

Our regular meeting dates are the 2d Tuesday the month. For March only, we agreed to change the date of the next meeting to WEDNESDAY March 11 because of a commitment made before we had set the regular dates.