

# Calais Historic Preservation Committee

March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**Present:** David Schutz, Larry Bush, Dirk Van Susteren, Tobin Anderson, Ryan Edwards, Karen Lane, Linda Gray

## **LOCAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION UPDATES**

Memorial Hall: They will be announcing a contractor for phase 2 of the reconstruction this week. This will include the historic porches, which should be constructed by the end of the summer.

East Calais General Store: Hoping to get work bids before the beginning of the summer.

Friends of the Town Hall: The building will be opening this summer. There will probably be a grand opening in May. The Gospel Hollow Players will put on their show there in June. After their run, construction will be going on with the installation of stage lighting, the sound system, and the tech booth. There's a possibility of a concert season starting in August or September. The Friends will deal exclusively with the non-civic events at the Town Hall.

**MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY MEETING:** Unanimously approved.

## **MAPLE CORNER NOMINATION:**

- Several members of the CHPC went on an informational walk around the proposed district with historian Brian Knight, guided by several knowledgeable Calaisians.
- Suggestion that came out of that meeting: Possible interpretive sign at the Curtis Pond swimming area about Camp Comfort?
- There are questions about the boundaries of the proposed district. In particular, Brian wants to be conservative about the houses around Curtis Pond itself. (It could even potentially be its own district.)
- In-person gathering at the Maple Corner Community Center: We're going to shoot for April 14<sup>th</sup>.
- ACTION ITEM: David will check the Community Center calendar to see if the 14<sup>th</sup> is free.
- There's concern in Maple Corner that a historic district will interfere with property owners' rights. Larry points out that in the other districts, we sent out letters explaining that this doesn't have anything to do with regulation.

- ACTION ITEM: Larry will find examples of the previous letters we sent out and send them to David.
- The emphasis for this introductory event will be on the history of the district – a slideshow etc. Brian will talk about the district and we'll answer the FAQ's. Brian will also be able to ask questions of the community about elements still in doubt.
- Susannah suggested we whip up dessert recipes from Mrs. Appleyard's cookbooks.
- ACTION ITEM: Dirk will find some good recipes and we'll divide them among ourselves.
- ACTION ITEM: Should we read the draft at the moment, or should we wait until the next draft? David will talk to Brian. David will send out a note with these minutes to let us know.

#### **CALAIS TOWN HISTORY TOUR:**

- ACTION ITEM: Tobin will contact Cat Fair again about coordinating with the elementary curriculum. Karen will reach out to Debbie Grout casually to see if she might be interested in talking through the project.

**FOR NEXT MEETING:** Revisit all of the offices for the commission – especially Secretary. Is anyone interested in these positions?

**Next Meeting** to be held at the Town Hall at 7:00 on April 7<sup>th</sup>, in person.