

Town of Starksboro
Jerusalem Schoolhouse Committee
Minutes (DRAFT)
September 24, 2018
(Unapproved)

Present: Tom Estey, Susan Klaiber, Luke McCarthy, Megan Nedzinski, Greg Orvis, Greg Cousino

Unable to attend: Alan Quittner

The meeting was called to order by Chair Susan Klaiber at 6:00 p.m.

Visitors Business: None

Minutes: The 8/27/18 minutes were reviewed.

Motion: Susan K. made a motion to approve the minutes of 8/27/18, seconded by Tom E.

Vote: All in favor

Consideration of land survey proposal(s): Megan N. shared information from Barnard & Gervais about a proposal to do a land survey and site assessment for the proposed structure, including a boundary survey and additional topographic data so an updated site plan can be prepared.

Motion: Megan N. made a motion that the committee accept this proposal and forward the information to the Selectboard for approval. Jason Barnard will offer a substantial discount on the work he does.

Vote: All in favor

Consideration of structural assessment proposal(s): Engineering Ventures submitted a proposal for a structural assessment on the current Jerusalem Schoolhouse building. Megan N. suggested that this would be helpful for budgetary purposes moving forward. Discussion was had at this point regarding the cost of all this preliminary work and how quickly the \$25,000 that the voters approved at Town Meeting would be spent. There is concern that there may not be enough left for full architectural plans. Megan N. has access to software that may be helpful in creating a total budget, to base the project on. Discussion was had about possible fundraising ideas. In addition, Greg O. will attempt to contact Jeremiah Parker who did a building assessment several years ago to inquire about obtaining a copy of his report and about the possibility of an update of that report. A conversation with Preservation Trust of Vermont indicated that an assessment from a historical perspective would be helpful for potential grants.

Motion: Tom E. made a motion to accept the proposal from Engineering Ventures and forward to the Selectboard for approval. Greg O. seconded.

Vote: All in favor

Consideration of hazardous material abatement proposal(s): Clay Point Associates (CPAI), made a proposal to do an assessment that includes: asbestos, lead paint, and other potentially hazardous materials/universal waste such as underground storage tanks, mercury thermostats, fluorescent lights, etc. Megan N., said that they would do a room by room report on the costs associated with the removal of these items.

Motion: Greg O. made a motion to accept this proposal by CPAI and forward to the Selectboard for approval, seconded by Luke M.

Vote: All in favor

Discussion of current and future uses of the schoolhouse: Susan handed out a list of past, current and future uses of the schoolhouse for discussion. Luke M. suggested an updated playground and this idea lead to further discussion about how to increase the usability of the facility. There was discussion about the septic capacity for the facility if it is used as an emergency shelter. It was pointed out that the intention is not to provide overnight shelter for multiple people. There was discussion about conducting a public survey regarding the current and future uses of the Jerusalem Schoolhouse. As part of the discussion it was suggested that the committee officially change its name to the Jerusalem Community Center Committee before beginning the survey. This designation will better reflect inclusion of both the schoolhouse and the fire station as part of a community center. This will be brought before the Selectboard for approval at their next meeting.

Items for next meeting: Update on contracting for land survey, structural assessment, and environmental inspection. Further discussion of community survey questions and delivery. Discuss potential grant opportunities.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, October 29, at 6:00 pm at the Schoolhouse.

Motion: Motion was made by Megan N. to adjourn, seconded by Tom E.

Vote: All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10.