Minutes of the Ad Hoc Committee for the Bradford M. Field Library

February 16, 2023

Committee Members present: Richard Nathhorst, chair; Van Stoddard, Kathy Stoddard, Anne Schuyler, Kari Ridge, Silas Ball, Maureen Ippolito

Judy Todd, Ann Ferguson, Sara Robinson and Don Robinson absent

Guests: Pat Duffy, Tanya Cushman

Kari suggested we ask visitors to refrain from commenting during the meeting. They will be given time at the end of the meeting. (Pat is an exception since she has been attending meetings from the start.) Richard said a few committee members had complained to him that the visitor had hijacked the last meeting. Silas does not believe she hijacked the meeting. All voted in favor with Anne Schuyler abstaining.

Kari also suggested putting time limits on agenda items so meetings will be more efficient.

No update on the forums.

Richard mentioned the error in the recent newsletter about the forum.

Richard said the proposed Facilities budget has nothing listed for the Field Building. We need to remedy this and ask that the town pay for the heat, electric and a new dehumidifier. Then we will need to figure out a plan for emptying. He also mentioned keeping the heat at 65 degrees to help dry the place out. Maureen suggested we ask that the Field Building be added to the Facilities budget at the March 1 budget meeting.

The property survey is complete. Richard will send everyone a copy. The two companies that need to give us proposals for the wetland survey did not want to do proposals without having a copy of this survey.

Richard wants to use Dietz and Company for the Historic Architectural Evaluation and he is working on setting that up.

Van suggested we get on the list with someone for the perc test so we are not going to have to wait a while when we are ready for that step.

There is concern about the proximity of the neighbor’s well and there is also a pond on the neighbor’s property.

We will be required to have a site for the septic and an alternate site.

Leverett law does not allow the installation of a raised septic system for a new construction. If a septic is to be installed on the Field building property, it will be considered a new construction.

Kari suggested we create a progress chart since we won’t be done by Town Meeting. We can list what has been done and what needs to be done/expected time frame. This can be a handout at TM.

Richard is waiting to hear from Lisa about a Committee page on the town website.

Anne S. has been trying to answer some of the historic and museum-related questions that are on the list Kari and Ann F. created. She will send everyone the information she has been compiling.

The Field Library cost $3500 to build and it was the first public library in town. Prior to this, the library was in a private home. The architect was born in Leverett and was a well-known architect.

We will work on the flow chart together at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:23.

Submitted by,

Maureen Ippolito