

Farley Building Committee
Minutes: January 11, 2024 Meeting

Members present: David Sullivan, Chair, Jeanne Smith Cripps, Mike Leavitt, Karla Vogel, Michael Bates, Liz Barbour, Kimber Harmon.

Minutes of Dec. 28 were approved as submitted.

Agenda items:

1. Update on Budget Committee (BudCom) meeting, Jan. 8th

- Initial presentation of a warrant article to cover the cost of completing the architectural, engineering and construction documents.
 - Committee asked questions regarding the status of the building activity.
 - If the W.A. is passed will that commit the town to the full restoration?
 - What does the town get for the money?
- Dave responded to their questions and will provide a store of material regarding the study done thus far on the building by Misiaszek Turpin pplc.
The next meeting on Feb. 6th is important to have a show of support to the BudCom committee that these documents are essential to proceed with fund raising and RFP on the rehabilitation of the building.
- Mike Leavitt suggested we get our presentation slides to the BudCom people ASAP so they are familiar with the project before the 2/6 meeting.
- It was also suggested that town commissions submit letters of support for the warrant article as well as any other significant members of the town. The goal is to show BudCom there is interest in continuing with the rehabilitation so the warrant article is submitted with their approval.
- Discussion related to identifying how much money has already been allocated to this building since the school turned over ownership to the town in 2005. This includes two warrant articles, private donations to fix roof, etc., and the everyday maintenance of the space.
- Clarification provided by Mike Levitt regarding the warrant article process vs. those budgets that are fixed by town contracts such as the school budget.

2. Digital Media:

- Liz will be working with Peter Jones to add design and content to the website. The timeline and FAQ section will be included on the website. In addition, Liz would like to include a 3D view of several classrooms to demonstrate the potential space allocations. She referred us to the Bedford school website as an example:
 - <https://bedfordhistoricalnh.org/stevens-buswell-community-center-bedford-nh/>

- Dave will create a separate email for FarleyForUs on gmail.
- Karla created a Facebook page to promote activity surrounding the Farley building. The design will need adjusting to support cell phone viewing. She will also add Dave as a content provider on the page.

3. Fundraising:

- We all need to connect with influencers in the town to build support for this project.
- Jean suggested a printed flyer that presented the work and goals of the rehabilitation would be useful to distribute in town locations (library, Buckley's, bank, etc.) as well as individuals. Karla will work on a draft for the next meeting. In addition, we will have a printed flyer to promote the warrant article when that information becomes available.
- Dave reported the initial proposal to the Historical Society was well received. The goal is to award ownership of the building to a non-profit to allow more aggressive fund raising. The Historical Society could benefit by moving their documents and workspace to the third floor of the Farley Building. Further study of this concept is underway.

4. The leadership of this committee flowed from the initial work in 2021/22. Dave became the current chair at the request of Lori Radke. Dave offered that we vote new chair if so moved by the current committee. Other officers such as secretary and treasurer were not discussed at this time.

Next meeting: January 24th at 3pm in town hall.

Recorded and submitted by:
Karla Vogel