

Old Allenstown Meeting House Committee

August 1, 2019

6:00 P.M. Allenstown Police Department

Meeting Minutes

Present: James Garvin, Maureen Higham (Selectmen's Representative), Roland Martel, Armand Verville (chair), Claudette Verville.

1. Chairman Armand Verville called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. at the Allenstown Police Station.
2. The committee thanked Maureen Higham for attending in place of Ryan Carter as the representative of the Board of Selectmen to the Old Allenstown Meeting House Committee.
3. On a motion by Roland Martel, seconded by Claudette Verville, the minutes of the meeting of May 28, 2018, were unanimously approved as submitted.
4. Chair Armand Verville distributed a draft scope of work for replacing the current asphalt shingle roof of the Old Allenstown Meeting House with a metal roof with funding to be provided by the Allenstown Historical Society. He reiterated the fact that the committee must continue to consult with the Division of Historical Resources before any action can be taken, but asked committee members to review the draft and offer any suggestions for editing the document.

Armand has continued to investigate costs and technical matters pertaining to metal roofs, and pointed out that his scope of work includes specifications that would be necessary for such a roof. These include stripping the existing asphalt roof rather than applying metal roofing over the asphalt and using either *synthetic* felt paper or *high temperature* ice and water shield under the metal roof.

5. The committee asked Secretary Jim Garvin to continue to discuss the developing proposals (see below) with the Division of Historical Resources following this meeting, and to offer a meeting between Verville and Garvin with the Division of Historical Resources to continue to discuss the proposal and all questions that might arise. The committee expressed a desire to complete a re-roofing project before the onset of the 2019-20 winter season, largely because of the asymmetrical snow-loading issues discussed in the minutes of the meeting of May 28th, but also because the current asphalt roof has received some damage from wind and accidents during earlier shoveling of snow off the roof. If we receive agreement from the Division of Historical Resources, we must still present the proposal to the Board of Selectmen because this is a town-owned property, and to town administrator David Goodine, before issuing formal requests for bids.
6. The three proposals received thus far are:
 - \$5,995.00 from Drew Roofing in Laconia. This contractor did not visit the building. We would need to request another bid that includes stripping the asphalt shingles.
 - \$7,000 from Center Hill Barns of Chichester.

- \$10,800 from Mihachik Builders of Allenstown. Their bid did not specify installation of the venting ridge, which we will want, and which is specified in our draft scope of work.

Armand also received a bid of \$36,000 for a Wakefield Bridge steel shingle roof. The cost of this roof greatly exceeds the Allenstown Historical Society's available funds. Also significant is the fact that steel shingle roofs are applied in interlocking panels. Damage to one or more panels can be expensive to repair due to the interlocking nature of this roofing system. The committee is concerned with the numbers of tall, fragile white pine trees that stand north and west of the meeting house, where they were newly exposed to winds by the removal of the neighboring red pines. Following that removal, the Old Allenstown Meeting House is vulnerable to a higher probability of tree damage to the roof than at any time since the 1930s.

7. Armand Verville provided an update on the T-hinges that hold the exterior window shutters of the meeting house, some of which need refurbishment. Although the building's exterior shutters have deteriorated in the past and been replaced from time to time, it is likely that these hinges are original to the restoration of the meeting house by the Daughters of the American Revolution in 1909. They cannot be duplicated by available new hardware. Armand displayed one of the original hinges, formerly nearly frozen by oxidation and paint, that has been restored to like-new condition by Lee Higham, Maureen's husband. Lee has offered to restore the remaining hinges. The committee offered its gratitude to Lee for this important contribution.
8. Armand Verville reported that he had spoken with David B. Krause, a new surveyor for the Division of Forests and Lands in the Department of Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, about locating and marking the back corners of the meeting house lot. Mr. Krause located, staked, and flagged the corners, one of which is marked by a granite post and pin, and the other by a stake and stones.
9. The next meeting of the committee will be at the call of the chair.
10. On a motion by Roland Martel, seconded by Claudette Verville, the meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
James L. Garvin, Secretary