

**Minutes of the Halifax Community Club Meeting on September 10, 2018
Copeland, 1581 Hanson Road, Halifax VT**

Attendees: Gretchen Becker (VP 2017), Bonnie Brown (Trustee 2017), Laurel Copeland (Pres 2017, Clerk), Joan Courser (Trustee 2015), Art Copeland, Lynda Copeland, Edie Fenton, Marilyn Allen, Linda Lyon

Unable to attend: John Kirk (Treasurer), Penfield Chester, Julia Copeland, Mary Horne, Dorie Mirucki, Heidi Schmitt, Mary Thome, Jason Ashcroft (NEW Sep-2018).

MEETING CONVENED at 6:50 PM

1. **Meeting Minutes** from August – approved.
2. **Treasurer's Report** -- The treasury holds \$22,287.06 after paying for the floor insulation and 50% of the electrician's bill. We continue to run about \$100 per month in electrical costs and had deposits of \$672.50 in ice cream sales, hall rental, tai chi and yoga.
3. **New Business**
 - a. **Breakfast Benefit** – Laurel asked Jason Ashcroft about scheduling the next Halifax Breakfast in late October. No reply as yet. We discussed the problems with October (Coopers Coop bonfire on Oct 14, Bluegrass on Oct 21) and November (Hunters' Supper put on by school). No decision made.
4. **Halifax Community maintenance 5-year plan**

Subcommittee formed by Marilyn Allen and Linda Lyon to expand the list of maintenance tasks (routine & large-scale), estimate their costs, schedule it out, and report back to the HCC. **(Marilyn, Linda L, John, and Laurel)**

- a. Regarding the \$10,000 in reserve for emergencies, should the Trustees review the likely scenarios when the reserve would be needed and the emergency need was not covered by our insurance on the Hall? – kitchen stove (\$5-6k), other major appliance, ice cream wagon, tree falling on fence or window, etc. 6 members favor keeping \$10k or more in reserve while 3 members were in favor of keeping less in reserve and getting the Hall insulated now. A closer look at what major appliances might be old enough to fail was requested (stove might be 30 years old). **Getting cost estimates for insulating the walls was requested** to inform how much we need to spend in order to save on heating costs (\$1500/year per Jan 2018 minutes). In correspondence, Chris Greenwood (State of Vermont) pointed out that if the Hall is a designated historic building, there are restrictions on insulators, painters, and other contractors. **Linda and Laurel will work on this** more. Someone should talk to David Jones about how he set up the GoFundMe page for the Union building.

- b. Joan proposed we look into new storm windows that are easier to manage.

Priority #1: Wash the windows (report) – Windows will be washed by Shine-Thru in 2019. **(Laurel)**

Priority #2: Rewiring. Trustees met on Saturday 9/8 at Joan's house to discuss the 4 bids we got. Ed Lamoureux's bid was the lowest and he came with a very strong recommendation. The Trustees voted to engage Lamoureux and find out his expected schedule for the work. The estimate was \$3460 with 50% down and 50%

due upon completion. Laurel called Ed; Ed was very happy to be hired and said he would complete the work this month, before the Halifax Town Celebration on September 29th. John K will leave a check for 50% of the estimate with Joan. Ed will call Joan and get the Hall key as well as the check from her when he starts work. **(Trustees)**

Priority #3: Insulation – Laurel asked Adam Buursma to bid on insulating the walls. **Laurel will seek an estimate for blow-in insulation** as well. **(Laurel)**

Priority #4: Wash and paint the fuel tank out back of the Hall. **VOLUNTEER NEEDED.** Update 9/10/2018: **Linda volunteered** to write to the high school asking whether high school students would like to do this as community service.

Old Priority #2: Insulation under the floor by Adam Buursma (Green Foam Insolutions of Jacksonville) for \$3636; **DONE.**

Old Priority #3: Paint the Walls – Momaney Painters have been engaged to scrape, prime, and repaint the entire exterior for \$19,000; confirmed 8/8/2018. Loss of work force and rain, rain, rain have delayed them to September (estimated). John Kirk learned that Mo plans to paint into November as he plans to paint the Union building after the Hall. **(Laurel)**

5. Ice Cream Wagon

- a) Proposal to round off the prices for ice cream from \$5.75 to \$6.00, and from \$2.75 to \$3.00. At Rowe this year we ran out of nickels, dimes, quarters, and \$1 bills. Rounding the prices would reduce the need for small change without impacting the cost to the customer very much. All members voted in favor of this change. **Joan will print new price sheets** for Halifax Town Celebration (9/29/2018).
- b) Proposal to reduce the number of flavors of ice cream from 7 to 6 to make accessing all flavors easier. This change is not really needed. It was an unusual occurrence that caused a problem at the Clambake.

6. Old Business

- a. **Hall Kitchen Renovation** – Status: Jason Ashcroft is diving into a new project. More work by Bonnie and Joan shows that not all the cabinets will fit, the grill requires a smaller base, and the work space for the range, if relocated, would be dark and poorly ventilated. Additional space on both sides of the grill and the range is needed for heat dispersal. Update 9/10/2018: Moving into the foyer would prevent door from opening fully, and needed storage space would be lost. **(Bonnie)**
 - b. **Dorie** – now in hospice and seeking sitters for company and to read to her and to provide respite for the step-daughter, Cathy. Linda will find out more about what services they are getting and what she is still needing. **Volunteers should let Linda know** they are available to sit with Dorie.
 - c. **Article about Hall Murals – proposed: frame and hang in the Hall** –Joan brought several articles to the meeting and left the newspaper originals with **Laurel to frame** the October 2017 Halifax News lead story and **to write up** the 2012 gardening story for a future Newsletter. **(Laurel)**
- 7. Dennis Onear on Pennel Hill – Joan will ask** him about a date to talk about Puerto Rico. **(Joan)**

- a. **Music Event** – Joan engaged Snake Mountain Bluegrass band to play on October 21, 2018, at the Halifax Community hall. This is a fundraising event to help with costs of upgrading the electrical system in the Hall. **(Joan)**
- b. **Community Phone Book** – No Update 6/18 or 8/13. Proposal to sell ads to support a listing of community members who want to be included with any contact info they choose, e.g., Name, physical address, mail address, email address. A single snail-mail outreach solicits listings. Examples show each letter of the alphabet with listings of the contributed names and some blank space for write-ins. HCC members support paying the costs of mail-out and printing. Businesses could comprise a section. "Neighbors Helping Neighbors" resource list would comprise a separate section, perhaps on pink paper to make it easy to find. POST-MEETING UPDATE: Penfield reported needing to delay this a few months. **(Penfield)**
- c. **Turner Lewis** can present on the Iditarod as he has before. No Update. Dr. Sveck possible speaker. Could put a notice in FPF asking for presenters. **(Linda L)**

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Monday, October 15, 2018 at 6:45 pm at 1581 Hanson Road :: We will prepare the Annual Appeal mailing!
MEETING ADJOURNMENT 8:10 pm.