

**NORTH SCHOOL PRESERVATION SOCIETY**

**AUGUST 3, 2021 @ 6:30 PM**

*(in the warming hut)*

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Attendance:** Richard Willard, Ginny Ricker, Francine Provost, Jo Robbins, Dave Hall and Kerri Casey.

The meeting was called to order by Richard Willard at 6:33 p.m.

Minutes of the July 6 meeting were motioned and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Ginny presented the report for July, which was distributed to members. The treasury stands at \$22,124.69. The report will stand for audit.

**Old Business:**

1. Snowmobile Club – Tabled for now; no one from VAST was present.
2. Building Repairs
  - a. Dave reported that the front doors were scraped and are awaiting a choice of paint color to be repainted. Richard will procure paint color swatches which he will leave at the school on Aug. 7. They will then be reviewed and selected by the members.
  - b. Windows – The windows in the front doors have been uncovered and cleaned. Dave plans to uncover and fix the window over the bulkhead door on the rink side of the building in order to prevent leaks into the basement.
  - c. Certificate for lead paint supervisors to oversee volunteers was tabled in the absence of Moe and Christy, both of whom in the past completed the certification process.
  - d. Smoke detectors – six were purchased and are awaiting installation.
  - e. Public access to the upstairs – Jo has reviewed the fire marshal certificate that was issued to North School and sees no clause preventing members or their assistants from being in the upstairs of the building, although access to the general public is not recommended.
3. Property Rental
  - a. Aug. 14 – the Class of '66 has confirmed its rental of the premises.
  - b. Aug. 21 – the wedding of her daughter has been confirmed by Kerri Casey for that Saturday.
4. Dumpster
  - a. The dumpster is full and has been packed so the lids are closed and flush with the bin. There was a discussion re. ways to recycle more and spare the dumpster.
  - b. Dave reported that kitchen glassware (not china dishes, etc.) is acceptable for recycling at the Springfield Recycling Center.
  - c. A chain and lock for the dumpster is still needed.
5. Historical Preservation status – The application is being drafted; there are no further updates.
6. Tag Sales
  - a. The next scheduled tag sale is August 28, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.; work day Aug. 27, 2 p.m. Several members will not be available, and Ginny suggested that we limit the outdoor setup due to lack of manpower. Other sales are scheduled for Sept. 18 (work day Sept. 17), and tentatively for Oct. 16 (work day Oct. 15).
  - b. New work day: Richard will be here Saturday, Aug. 7, to do some work organizing and he alerted members who are available to join him anytime during the day. He will email the core members to notify them.
7. Super Fundraiser
  - a. A tentative date of May 2022 has been set. Organizations either solicited by NSPS or showing an interest are invited to take part by setting up their own booth and conducting their own fundraisers on NS property in concert with the North School yard sale that day. Organizations currently being considered include the North Springfield Baptist Church; The Advent

Christian Church; and, most recently, Black River Action Team. Richard has also consulted J&J's North Springfield Market to cater the event. Richard is also contacting friends from New York and Boston who are willing to play music to entertain. Jo will consider setting up and selling her artwork, and an "Art in the Park" theme is being considered by NSPS in which it's inventory of art will be featured.

- b. Richard is asking for NSPS members and others to volunteer to help do bsckup work and management of the event.
- c. Members raised questions about town permits for vendors and NSPS and insurance certificates for participating organizations. Richard would like members to research these regulations as well as other issues, including providing power to participants and parking cars.

#### 8. Safety

- a. Richard is researching installing a landline phone at the school for emergency purposes. He consulted VTel and was told that a phone line, now disconnected, exists to the school building. He and members questioned a need for an extended phone line from the building to the hut and was told that NSPS, as a customer, could install its own extension line if needed, otherwise VTel would install two separate phones and NSPS would be charged for two phones. The cost for one line would be \$30.95/month, although other charges (taxes, fees, etc.) may apply and would need to be verified. Richard has arranged for a VTel technician to visit the school and advise us about feasibility. The technician will be at the school sometime Saturday morning (August 7).
- b. Dave suggested a possible "cell phone booster antenna" which could provide better access for cell phones. Currently there is poor cell phone reception in the park and on the property. Dave will research this and let us know if it's possible and the cost.
- c. Ginny asked us to consider the additional monthly expense for the NS treasury. Can we absorb this monthly expense based on our current level of income and expenditures? Members will weigh in on this as more details unfold.

#### 9. Member Updates

- a. Richard spoke with Dottie. She is living in an assisted living apartment near her daughter in New Jersey. She takes an active interest in our organization and members and would welcome calls and letters from us.
- b. Richard reminded members of the farewell luncheon for George and Fran Keeler at the Baptist Church Sunday, Aug. 8.

#### **New Business:**

1. Member Keith Stearns notified us via email that he is willing to help with building work at the school. He has been in touch with Dave. Dave was asked to contact Keith when he needs help with the work at the school.
2. The secretary position for the NS organization is again vacant. Richard is in touch with Lara Houghton-Robinson who had expressed an interest in the position, although she is continuing to recover from a serious medical condition. Richard will let her know the position is available for her (if she still wants it) when she is fully recovered. Other members are welcome to volunteer as well.

**Adjournment:** The business being concluded, a motion was made and approved to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

*Next meeting: Tuesday, September 7, 2021, 6:30 p.m. in the warming hut.*