

**North School Preservation Society
Meeting Minutes
December 5, 2023**

Attendance: Francine Provost, Dave Hall, Ginny Ricker, Richard Willard, Margery Burbank, Nate Willard

Annual Meeting, December 5, 2023

Vice President Francine Provost opened the Annual Meeting at 6:05 p.m. and gave introductory comments summarizing the previous year's progress and thanking the core members and volunteers who contributed so much commitment, energy, skill and talent to making the year a success despite staff, membership and financial challenges.

Annual Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Ginny Ricker distributed the January '23 through December '23 treasurer's report which will stand for audit.

Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation Changes

Based on evolving organizational procedures, the following Bylaw and Articles changes for the North School Preservation Society were motioned and approved:

Changing the time of the monthly meetings from the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Removing the requirement in the Articles of Incorporation stipulating that officers of the organization must be Vermont residents.

Monthly meetings are suspended during January and February each year.

Ginny will research the requirements to make these changes and will let the members know.

Election of Officers, 2024 through 2025

The following officers were nominated, motioned, approved and elected to two-year terms (2024 and 2025):

President: Richard Willard

Vice President: Francine Provost

Treasurer: Ginny Ricker

Secretary: (*vacant*)

Trustees: David Hall, Margery Burbank, Andrea Cook

Francine closed the Annual Meeting at 7 p.m.

Monthly Meeting, December 5, 2023

Francine opened the monthly meeting at 7 p.m.

Meeting Minutes, November 23 and October '23

Minutes of both meetings were motioned and approved. (The October minutes were approved belatedly as there wasn't a quorum at the November meeting.)

Treasurer's Report

Ginny distributed the November treasurer's report to members. It will stand for audit.

Old Business

Insurance update

Ginny informed the members that the organization has contracted with a new insurance company since the previous insurance company no longer makes insurance available to the North School. The new annual liability and property insurance for the park and building will be \$4,577.59 if paid in full. A motion was made, voted and approved to pay the full amount rather than to incur excessive additional charges for installment payments.

Playground repair update

An order for replacement parts for the playground has been processed and the invoice was sent to Dave, who is overseeing the repairs. He said that the only cost will be for shipping the replacement parts (\$1,353). A motion was made and approved to pay the invoice. Dave has offered to get

volunteers to help him install the new parts and fix the playground in the spring

Grounds and building issues

Dave informed us that the propane tank in the warming hut is seriously depleted. During a meeting with the Springfield Town Manager, Francine and Ginny were told that the Town would provide fuel through the remainder of the year. Francine will contact the Town Manger to request that a fuel delivery be made.

A question also remains regarding plowing and mowing of the park and grounds. In 2024, the organization will be expected to provide these services since the Town no longer uses the park and will no longer provide maintenance for it.

New Business

June '24 Car Show proposal

Richard proposed that the organization host a one-day car show on the property in June. He suggested that it coincide with an open yard sale at the school as well as hosting flea market vendors. While the car show would not pay rent or fees to the North School organization, he suggested that the activity would draw potential shoppers and supporters to the organization and the park. This proposal was discussed and questions were raised regarding publicity and the management of the cars and vendors. Richard agreed to oversee and manage the event, although he requested assistance with publicity. Ginny suggested paid advertising in local and other publications. These issues will be researched and discussed when the members meet again in March. Meanwhile, Richard will keep the members informed of developments.

2024 Yard Sale Schedule

Richard will email his proposed schedule for the upcoming yard sales in 2024.

Organization Status

Members discussed the status of the North School organization regarding the lack of a complete board of directors and diminished membership.

Members are concerned and were encouraged to find ways to recruit others.

Proposal for a Capital Fund

Richard proposed that NSPS establish a Capital Fund to ensure future building repairs. He also suggested that this be used as a reference when soliciting corporate business donations from institutions such as banks and major businesses. Ginny will consider how to incorporate and monitor a fund into the treasury.

The business being concluded, the meeting was motioned, approved and adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Next meeting: Tuesday, March 5, 6 p.m. in the warming hut