

North School Preservation Society
Meeting Minutes
May 7, 2024

Attendance: Richard Willard, Francine Provost, David Hall, Margery Burbank, Ginny Ricker, Moe Gilchrist

The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. in the warming hut at the park.

Minutes of the March and April meetings were motioned and approved.

Ginny distributed the Treasurer's Report for April, which will stand for audit.

A motion was made and approved to reimburse Ginny for the expense of a new poster listing nonacceptable items for donation and a promotional poster for the upcoming car show. A motion was also approved to reimburse Richard for expenses incurred in making copies of the original blueprints of the North School building.

OLD BUSINESS

Building

Dave has completed repairs to the front entrance concrete steps in accordance to the insurance company's requirements. The upper siding repairs and the front brick work rebuild will be contracted when appropriate professionals can be found. Meanwhile, the updates will be advised for the insurance company. It was suggested that other less expensive insurance companies be solicited before the next annual insurance payment in November. Moe offered to ask an insurance carrier with whom he has done business.

Grounds

Dave has completed the repairs to the playground and it is now open to the public.

The organization has been looking to contract mowing company for the upcoming season. Dave has been in touch with a person who has a mowing business who has offered to mow the North School Park and grounds as an in-kind business expense donation for the upcoming season. Ginny will apply the appropriate nonprofit requirements to enact the contract.

There had been a suggestion to utilize the services of a sheep farmer to bring sheep to mow the grounds, but, after discussion, it was considered impractical for a park which is open the public, so the suggestion was dismissed.

Car Show Update

Richard reported that he has secured the attendance of car clubs from Boston and Hadley, MA, and Hartford, among others. A car club from Newport has also expressed interest, as well as from a family-owed car collecting group. Vendors for the flea market continue to be sought, and Richard has secured permits for vendors, who are required to buy town permits. Richard and his visiting friend will oversee parking during the event. It was reported that Andrea will make sandwiches and refreshments for the North School in addition to the schedule food truck vendor.

May Yard Sale

The next yard sale is May 11 from 9-2 with setup Friday, May 10, from noon to 2 p.m.

Membership and Fundraising

New members and volunteers are being sought during the upcoming yard sales and the car show. Volunteers are also sought to manage the organization's digital identity and outreach.

The meeting was motioned and adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 4, at 6 p.m. in the warming hut.