

AHC Meeting, July 19, 2019

The Ashby Historical Commission held a public meeting on Friday, July 19, 2019, at 3:00 PM in a room on the first floor of the Ashby Town Hall. To discuss the repairing and preserving of the Ashby Town Hall.

Present at the meeting were members Claire Lewis, Alan Pease, Sally Beames, and Florence Bryan.

Also present were selectman Mike McCallum and local architect Paul Linceck and

two interested members of the Ashby Community.

Minutes of the June 28th, 2019, meeting were unanimously approved. This was followed by the main business of the meeting, which was to discuss approaches and methods to preserve and paint the exterior of the building.

Some mention was made of prior repairs or alterations made as far back as 1989, and the approximate costs of those changes.

Some subjects covered in the following discussions included the following:

Repairs to the dormers

Pointing the chimney

Scraping down wood boards

Stability of roof boards

Spray foam as a fire hazard

Minor cracks and nail holes

(report continued)

fiberglass in some ceilings

lead paint issues

repair or replace clapboards

30 year shingles on the roof

costs of painting and of doing the roof

The committee agreed vinyl siding should not be considered for the project. They also agree to investigate the possible use of Tru Exterior - a "wood" that is fairly new and described by Mr. Hieneck as a material that is durable and takes paint well. A possible material for clapboards.

Costs of the painting procedure, which was about \$70,000 in 1989 would now be closer to \$175,000 to \$200,000 just to replace the sides and roof.

Mr. Pease passed out copies of information from the Massachusetts Historical Commission explaining their inventory of the Lyman Building (ie the Town Hall) and a description of the MHC Mass. Preservation Projects Fund. After discussing the pros and cons of applying for a grant, the commission did not make a decision. More needs to be known about the final project and about the restrictions on those funds and the amounts of money available through grants.

The commission discussed approaching Monty Tech regarding any interest in repairing or replicating any of the building's trim (ie moldings or arches.)

The Committee voted to meet with the Ashby Selectmen on wednesday, August 7th, 2019 at ~~the~~ 7:00 o'clock to discuss the results of this meeting and garner their input

Other business - just before adjourning a young lady (later identified as _____) asked the AHHC to sign a memorandum of understanding regarding the presentation of tribal historical ceremonial stone landscapes in the town of Ashby. This project was approved by the prior year Ashby Historical Commission in May of 2018, but was not signed at that time. The Commission voted to sign (unanimously) and Alan Pease signed the memorandum at this time.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30^{PM}
Florence Bryan, Secretary