

Town of Bridgewater
Committee to Save the Bridgewater Village School Building
Minutes of August 27, 2018

DRAFT MINUTES

Location: Bridgewater Grange Hall
Date: August 27, 2018
Time: 4:30 PM

Meeting was called to order at approximately 4:36PM by Brian Bontrager. Brian welcomed the visitors. Brian asked if everyone would take a moment and go around the room and introduce themselves.

Present: Brian Bontrager, Hank Smith, William Young, Vicky Young, Collen Doyle and Joni Kennedy

Visitors: Danelle Sims – Norman Williams Library, Nancy Robinson, Lauren Skaskiw – Plymouth Schoolhouse, Charles Shackleton – Charles Shackleton Furniture, Zachariah Ralph – Sustainable Woodstock, Alice Paglia, Kathy Dolan and Mark van Gulden – Artistree,

Brian asked for a motion to approve the August 20, 2018 meeting minutes. Hank made the motion to accept the meeting minutes and Bill seconded it. Motion passed.

Bullet Points of the meeting:

- Hank reported that we are all formal now and officially incorporated as a non-profit in the State of Vermont. **“Bridgewater Area Community Foundation, Inc.”**
- We applied for our Employee ID # and received it
- By Laws have been created
- The Bridgewater Area Community Foundation, Inc. will be applying within the next few weeks with the IRS to get 501 C3 status
- We need Board Members (between 7-9 members) and an Executive Director
- Letters of Support received regarding Programming and Uses

ArtisTree

Thompson Senior Center

Pentangle

Interplay Jazz and Arts

Prosper Valley School
Sustainable Woodstock

- Hank asked the Committee members if everyone received their copy of the presentation for the Select Board Meeting on August 28, 2018 and had a chance to review it.
- Lauren Skaskiw runs a Center Based Licensed Pre-school in the Plymouth Schoolhouse/Community Building during the summer season. Lauren has been the Director of the Plymouth Community Center for the past two years. Her program has been operating for the past four years and was at full capacity this summer with an Intern. In addition she offers monthly play groups, yoga on Sunday mornings, and has offered knitting and mindfulness classes. Residents can use the space for birthday parties etc... During the school year Lauren is the Director of the Rochester Pre-school Program. Lauren shared that there are currently NO licensed and/or registered pre-schools with the state of Vermont in the Town of Bridgewater. Lauren shared how pre-schools build community and how needed they are. Here is a link of a promo video that was done regarding it <http://okemovalley.tv/plymouth-community-center-promo>
- Robert Buchan will be submitting a proposals for the cost to do a complete assessment of the building.
- We would like to get two (2) proposals for the cost for Engineering and Construction Firms to do a complete assessment of the building to present to the Select Board
- Brian met with Breadloaf and gave them a tour of the school building
- Discussion regarding having a Fire Marshall Inspection for Occupancy
- Discussion regarding roof on schoolhouse. Roof was last done in 1992. What is the roof load bearing in regards to solar? Front is metal, back is membrane
- Danelle Sims is the Program Director at the Norman Williams Library. She said that Library passes are FREE to all Bridgewater residents. She gave an overview of all of the programs that they offer. They have Journeying Programs, Knitting Group, Book Groups for adults and teenagers, Mah Jongg Games, Bridge, Recite Poetry, 12 Step Yoga, and much more! She said all of the Library offerings are free and programs offered in the Learning Lab are pay classes. The Library offers free Wi-Fi as well as free tech help. A lot of people use tablets, computer, audio books, e-books as well as checking out books.
<http://normanwilliams.org>
- Zach Ralph gave an overview of Sustainable Woodstock and their Mission. They are very interested in what we are trying to do in our Town and community. They have been a great resource. They offer three to four programs a month, along with a Film Series, Green Drink, Composting, Credit Building Workshop and the Naked Table Lunch and Workshop and more.

<http://www.sustainablewoodstock.org>

.● Discussion regarding a dedicated open space in the School House that could be used for all sorts of classes, programs, yoga, dance etc..

ACTION ITEMS:

- Brian will contact Engineering and Construction Firms to get proposals for the cost to do a complete assessment of the building.
- Joni will follow up again with the Food Shelf
- Our Committee will be presenting at the Select Board Meeting on August 28, 2018

We would like to thank all of the visitors who attended today's meeting in support of our town and community.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 4, 2018 at 4:30 pm at the Bridgewater Grange Hall in Bridgewater.

Brian asked for a motion to adjourn at 5:32 and Hank made the motion and Collen seconded it. Motion passed.

The Committee meets once a month on the first Tuesday of every month at the Bridgewater Grange Hall at 4:30 pm.

We invite community members to join us at our monthly meetings as we welcome your thoughts and ideas.

Respectfully submitted,

Joni Kennedy