

Solomon Welles House Committee  
Minutes – Tuesday, January 12, 2016

Chairperson Mahar opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Members present were Gretchen Kelly, Harry Lichtenbaum and Mary Mahar. Also present was Kathleen Bagley, Director, Parks and Recreation Department.

A. Minutes.

Minutes of October 13, 2015 were approved.

B. Letters & Announcements.

1. Ms. Bagley noted that the town painter had been painting all the trim in the main public room of the house. Members checked out the paint job and were very pleased with the appearance of the room with the new paint.

C. Pending Business.

1. Budget Report.

Chairperson Mahar asked Ms. Bagley to review the budget report with members. She reported that all budget accounts are in good shape. Gretchen Kelly discussed the savings on oil costs based on cold weather to date and asked about the water costs for the building. Ms. Bagley reported that a new water meter was installed several years ago so now the water bill is more accurate. Previously the old meter may not have been working properly.

2. Status of House Foundation Project.

The Town has gone out to bid for the foundation repairs. Bids are due back to the Town on February 4, 2016. Ms. Bagley explained that the work is scheduled to be done in April and May. She also noted that the April meeting for the committee may need to be relocated due to the work. Once a contractor is awarded the bid, a timeline will be established for the work.

D. New Business.

1. Capital Improvement Projects Request for 2016-2017 Budget.

Chairperson Mahar reviewed the Capital Improvement requests for the Solomon Welles House with members. Requests included:

- a. Painting house exterior and repairing clapboards, doors, dormers & windows.  
Cost for this project is estimated at \$91,500.
- b. Paved parking lot and drainage. Cost is estimated at \$270,000.

Ms. Bagley reported that these projects are not new and have been submitted in past years. Members concurred with this information and recognized that this work will need to be done in the near future. These projects have been submitted to the Town as part of the Parks & Recreation Department's 2016-2017 capital improvement project budget requests.

2. Caretaker Report.

Doug Maliszewski reported that the house was busy with rentals in December. He posted pictures on Facebook of the house decorated for the holidays and showed members the pictures. A suggestion was made to put some of these pictures up on the town website.

Doug reminded members of the new paint on the trim in the main room and suggested getting other rooms in the house painted too. He will work with Ms. Bagley on identifying the rooms and submitting work orders.

3. Lights on Christmas Tree.

Gretchen Kelly asked why the lights were not installed on the Christmas tree on the house property. Ms. Bagley did not know the lights were not installed and will follow up next year with a work order to put the lights on the tree. Usually maintenance puts them up each year.

E. Adjournment.

Harry Lichtenbaum moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m. The motion was seconded by Gretchen Kelly and approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kathleen A. Bagley, Director  
Parks and Recreation Department