

The meeting was held in the Town Hall Annex and opened at 7:12PM

Present were Chairperson Mary Ippolito, John Ivas, Roger Morrison, Rob Zahora, Toni Faria, and Mike Tredeau of the Historical Commission.

Minutes of the September Meeting

The minutes of Sept. 26th were read by Toni and accepted as read.

Chairperson Mary Ippolito announced that Binnie Factor has withdrawn from the committee.

Treasurer's Report

In the absence of Treasurer Kevin McKelvey there was no Treasurer's report for October.

In the absence of both Sonia and Kevin there was no update on the schedule for receiving **Rep. Murphy's Line Item of \$200,000.**

A question was raised about the time involved in the use of the money if it is granted. The repair of the roof was mentioned.

Mary presented the members with a printed plan and explanation regarding the sale of the two lots and questions of the New Vision:

The Sale of the Two Remaining Lots and A new RFP for Grand View.

It was reported that the new RFP for the Grand View will be going out at the end of the month. The use of the funds will be discussed at a later date. It was emphasized that the sale of the lots is imperative for the future of Grand View. The funds gained by the sale will be added to the funds on hand and the shell and core work can begin. A discussion followed on how the committee can help to move this along. When the RFP's are submitted hopefully, the shell and core work for the main house could start in the spring of 2007.

The Planned New Vision for Grand View

The committee is looking to the Board of Selectmen to formally endorse the New Vision. They should provide a clear outline of what the vision includes.

The following questions need to be addressed:

Community Playhouse purpose and size

Restore or recreate the barn? Make it larger?

Restore how many historic rooms?

Will there be an office for the Historical Commission?

Will the second floor be finished, and what will be the use?

Will the facility be available for rental for functions, or just meetings, or not rental at all?

Will there be space for Town Offices?

Does the facility need to be self sustaining?

Is there a need for a full kitchen?

Will the parking be restricted to the site or can there be overflow?

The outline questions and answers will impact the cost of development. With the outline of the New Vision, we can better pursue grants, and corporate donations. The unified vision for the site is necessary so everyone is presenting the same development plan.

Chairperson Mary Ippolito added that the Board of Selectmen have directed Verizon funds to Grand View in the past. She stated that she is looking forward to hearing about future good negotiations the Board of Selectmen have with other developers to bring funding to the Grand View farm.

Town of Winchester's Sanborn House - Similar use of a historic property

Regarding the proposed new use for Grand View as an art and cultural center, Toni Faria distributed information on the Sanborn House, Historical and Cultural Center in Winchester. It is a larger property however, the idea may be applied on a smaller scale to Grand View. The goal is to provide a place where the community can:

explore history,

participate in cultural events,

host celebrations and charity events

Stage exhibits and displays

Present lectures and programs

Conduct research and the archives and Society's collections

Hold meetings, rent nonprofit office space,

This information was also given to the Town Administrator.

GRV Site Issues

It was noted that the damaged vent from the basement of the main house has not been fixed. The building, grounds and appearance of Grand View continues to be a concern.

Status of Sale Items

In conjunction with the Historical Commission, Toni invited the GRV committee to display items to be sold at the Library display cases for the month of November.

When the items in store at the annex were counted it was determined that a new count and location of other sites where items may be stored needed to be done before the display is completed. Other places to display the items were mentioned, such as weekends at Shaws, and The Blue Tulip at the new Wayside Commons.

The Future of the Grand View Committee

In conclusion, members voiced their feelings of discouragement, and the effectiveness of the committee at this time. It was discussed at length. They agreed to meet with the Board of Selectmen to discuss the future of the committee.

Important issues that do not want to be abandoned were the preservation and use of the historic site, the fund raising such as the Buy a Brick program, and sale of items will continue. Noted was the good faith extended to the community by committee members

on behalf of the project, including the preparation and presentation to the Town Meeting members, and the public concerns of the future of Grand View.

Mary agreed to plan a meeting with the Selectmen.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Toni Faria