

**Francestown, NH
Heritage Commission Meeting
Feb 10, 2018 9:00 AM**

Attendees: Members:	Ruth Behrsing, Brad Howell
Alternates:	Elly Miles, Pat Krueger
Excused:	Michele Ferencsik, Barbara Caskie, BJ Carbee
Others	Scott Carbee, Polly Freese, Warren Kiblin

1. Meeting called to order at 9:03
2. Acceptance of Minutes for meeting Jan 13 2018. Brad moved, Elly seconded. All in favor.
3. Treasurer's Report: January Report We got \$5000 for benches and curtains and the remainder is the amount left from the seed money. Verney Foundation is still outstanding. Ruth move to accept, Brad seconded, all in favor.
4. Old Business: Pat reported on the large amount of sites available for wedding/event venues in NH and mentioned that some of the magazines are expensive, so we won't go that route. There are mountain tops, fairy, farms, seasonal ones. lots of options for prospective customers. She noted that not all caterers bring in food if there is no kitchen. It is hard to search on google and find costs for our town hall. We need a link so people can search and find our site.. Need something like Francestownnh.com/weddings so people can find stuff. Need great photos. We need to work with the old meeting house. Should invite wedding planners to a tea at the town hall in the spring so they can see what options we have so they can share with their customers. Include wedding planners, florist, photographer, house and carriage, inn-keepers. The more we can package things, place for ceremony, reception and lodging, the better. We should have a table at wedding fairs. They are held twice a year in Manchester. Monadnock Ledger has a wedding brochure.

Need to get our listing in various formats. Thesmartersearch for NH wedding venues is a good place to look for ideas.

On the event side, we could send letters to nonprofit organizations that are looking for venues, and end up reaching their boards. We might need to have a kitchen. Caterers need an oven, refrigerator and a sink with hose to rinse. The town hall has hookup for stove and piping for water is there. Will need to look at ways to have events without kitchen, Or look at fundraising and second hand options.

We have a frig and a large work-table. It is wood so would have to laminate it. There will be no money from the town. What about the stove and stuff from the old store. Scott mentioned there are places where we could rent with option to buy. Scott mentioned that the Hancock Town Hall has gotten into conferences. They have the Inn which helps. Francestown needs a pro-business attitude.

Francestown doesn't do a good job of promoting itself.

Ruth will talk to Steve G about adding a link to their web site, wedding page.. Will need photos at some events. Will need to stage some events. Pat will check on getting stuff for staging. Pat shared lots of information and got everyone thinking of future options, she had lots of information to share.

5. New Business: Brad says painting three sides and touching up front of Town Hall is a warrant article. We need an auxiliary heater for basement. Storm windows will be replaced. The contingency fund has money left for storms. Not decided yet on when and which windows.

The electrical panel at Town Hall can have more greenery. We should ask Heritage to talk to Garden Club. The electrical company has guidelines on what you can add. Scott will email Elly the name of the a place that has that information.. We need to write proposal, go to selectman, LCHIP, and then garden club. Elly has saved some of the lilacs and if they have survived the winter we will figure out where to plant them.

Polly asked about generator. Brad says we will get a transfer switch, it's a warrant article.

6. Fundraising/Stewardship
7. Date for next Regular Meeting Apr 14th, 2018 9:00 AM
8. Adjourn at 10:04. Motion by Ruth, seconded by Elly. All in favor.