Minutes of meeting of

**BROOKS ACADEMY MUSEUM COMMISSION**

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 2022 9:30 a.m.

**Attendees**: Commission Members David Spitz, Janet Cassidy, Sandra Hall, Debora Miller, and Lynne Zalesak, Museum Director Marie Zahn.

**Guests:** HHS President Taffy Aldrovandi, Linda Cebula, Ginny Hewitt, Chris Joyce, Laurie Moore

**CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chairman David Spitz.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** Chris Joyce, speaking on behalf of the Voter Information Committee, asked that the BAMC consider their request to have future BAMC meetings recorded so they could be available later to the public.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** No minutes were available; they will be read at next meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS: Landscaping project for Crowell Barn**

**UPDATES** FROM CHAIR David Spitz

**Foundation repair/basement excavation project**: This is slightly behind schedule, with plans complete and the architect now seeking prices. The prices are going to a Cost Estimator who will have prices for us by March 11 with bids to go out by April 1. Construction to begin any time after Sept. 1.
Three items have been added (to ask for the costs on):
• Thicker slab in basement to enable rolling shelves in archives room
• Excavate an additional 5 feet to the north to include the space under the columns
• Include pit for elevator. Elevator may be done now or later.

A question is now out to the Historic Commission to ask whether we need to come back to them for review of this project.

Ginny Hewitt offered the Brooks Library’s help in any way they can while BA is under construction.

Sandra Hall and David also spoke about the pushback they have heard from a couple of members of the Finance Committee on the amount to be spent on the building, just to make us aware that some in town are opposed, and some misunderstand that HHS is a tenant in the building, not the owner.

Linda Cebula suggested letters to the newspapers as part of a campaign to inform the public.

**Future capital planning:**

David discussed future items; noted that in Town plans there is mention of monies in next year’s budget to meet repairs to interior walls caused by work on the basement, and exterior preservation.

**Walkway:** In order to be ADA compliant, walkway must be 5% grade or less.

Several options were discussed.

A motion was made to go with Paul Doane’s plan for a 4 foot wide path that would go from the parking lot to the shop door (the present exit) and then turn right and go across in front of the barn to the double door (entrance). This would still not be totally ADA compliant but would get us closer to being ADA compliant. Cost of this to be covered by a donation from Paul Doane.

Motion to accept by Sandy Hall, 2nd by Deb Miller. Passed unanimously.

Taffy Aldrovandi noted that the HHS Board is not in favor of this plan because it was not fully ADA compliant; Marie Zahn noted the Crowell Barn Committee *is* in favor of it.

**MUSEUM DIRECTOR’S REPORT:** Museum Director Marie Zahn noted that there will be a decoy carving workshop taught by Paul Phillips, funded by various area cultural grants, the Antiques Owners Association, and other donors.

A Decoy Appraisal Day will be held in September.

Museum is preparing for possible move if the construction goes ahead as hoped.

Planning other activities (walks, tours, etc.) that will be held either outside or off campus. The Museum Gift Shop will be relocated to the shed.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** State Ethics Acknowledgment form was presented and signed by all BAMC members.

**APPROVAL OF EVENTS**: None

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**: None

**NEXT MEETING:** March 30, 2022, 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Cassidy

Janet Cassidy, Clerk

Brooks Academy Museum Commission

Approved 30 March 2022