

BROOKS ACADEMY MUSEUM COMMISSION  
WEDNESDAY, April 7, 2023  
9:30 AM at Town Hall

Present: David Spitz, Janet Cassidy, Sandy Hall, Lynn Zalesak, Deb Miller

Also attending: Anita Doucette in person; Marie Zahn (via Zoom); Bill Galvin of the CC Chronicle

1. CALL TO ORDER by David Spitz at 9:32.
2. PUBLIC COMMENT None
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 22, 2023 Motion to approve by Sandy Hall, 2nd by Lynne Zalesak, minutes to include the attachment (memo sent out by David prior to meeting about agenda items) as well. Passed unanimously.

4. OLD BUSINESS:

a. STATUS OF CONSTRUCTION PROJECT – foundation repair/basement excavation

David reported that the project is in OK shape.

They have poured the concrete walls. Helical piers will be used to provide support for concrete block wall that structural engineer determined was not on footings (est. cost \$61K). David noted the original cost estimate for the project was at the top of our budget and left no room for contingency costs. But we went with it.

Article 47 for Town Meeting will give us \$475K, source to be “Sinking Fund” from sale of town land. (This does not mean we will use all of that amount, just that that much is available.)

David met with Sean Libby; there will be a need for inside repairs for walls and ceilings. Sean will come up with a list of things that will need to be done in the building.

Also at TM, we have two CPC articles for windows and exterior preservation. We must be aware of what gets funded from that article.

Walls have been poured, Still work to be done, work is 70% done; will not be done by end of April as originally hoped. Museum will not be open this summer.

The furnace will be replaced; cost to come out of supplemental funding article. (Art. 47)

Worst interior damage at present is to the oldest part of the building. Still no fire suppression in the building.

b. 5-YEAR CAPITAL PLAN

As reported before, we took out \$600K from Capital Plan, replaced by the supplemental funding article. We may eventually have to go back to the Capital Plan before the 5 years are up.

There is the elevator to be installed, which will probably be necessary to meet accessibility requirements. Archival storage in basement? The basement will have to be finished, original plan was to make the entry through the original doors under the columns.

In future years of capital plan there is 875K – for elevator, finishing the basement (including archival storage) Cost analyses need to be done. David said that there will need to be future conversations about what is actually needed, with input from Harwich Historical Society.

David expressed concern whether our letter of two weeks ago to the Selectmen had been received; he asked Don Howell....it seems there was an email glitch in the Town system. Sandy noted that the County had changed systems without notifying anyone. The point of the letter is now moot; however, it was not a deliberate ignoring of our email.

If everything passes at TM, we are in good shape. David is confident the articles will pass.

- c. PREPARATION FOR TOWN MEETING We have the support of the Selectmen, and the Fin Comm. It is expected everything will pass.
5. NEW BUSINESS---None
6. APPROVAL OF EVENTS---None
7. APPROVAL OF BILLS--None
8. ADJOURN Motion to adjourn by Sandy, 2nd by Lynne Zalesak. Meeting adjourned at 9:50 am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Janet Cassidy  
Secretary BAMC

Minutes approved June 2, 2023