

**Kingston, New Hampshire
Grace Daly Barn ‘ell’ Disposition
Meeting of 17 Apr 2024
MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 6:01p by the Selectman Coppelmann

PRESENT: Selectman Coppelmann; Selectwoman Szwed; DPW Director Coombs; HDC: Susan DeHart, Virginia Morse - Vice Chair, Susan Prescott - Chair, Madelynn Ouellette, Dan Doyle; HC: Ernest Landry - Chair, Bob Bean - Vice Chair, Eileen Clifford; Museum: Jef Flanders-McDougal - Vice Chair, Christine Hume; Friends of the Museum: Lesley Hume, Walt Roy; Resident: Scott Ouellette

DISCUSSION:

Selectman Coppelmann reviewed the meeting held on 18 Jul.

Selectwoman Szwed read pertinent paragraph from previous meeting:
“The ‘ell’ is currently attached to the barn. It will be ‘cut away’ from the barn before the lifting begins. The stability of the ‘ell’ will be made clearer at the time. It was the consensus of the group that any further action to, or disposition of, the ‘ell’ will be discussed at a future meeting of the group.”

This is the purpose of today’s meeting: disposition of the ‘ell’.

Director Coombs outlined what the contractor was going to do and when he was projected to start.

Jef Flanders-McDougal provided information from two other experts that the ‘ell’ doesn’t need to be removed from the Barn. Selectwoman Szwed questioned why this information was provided two days before the meeting when we’ve known about the 1st of May start for several weeks. It was stated that the Museum just learned of the start date from a meeting held 10 days ago. Director Coombs stated that it has been discussed in meetings prior to that as well as informing the Chair of the HC of the date.

Lesley Hume and Jef Flanders-McDougal questioned the hiring of a contractor and why they were not informed directly. Director Coombs stated that it had been noticed as agenda items for Select Board meetings because the Select Board had to approve the contract. The HC was also involved in the vetting process of the contractor. The HC Chair, Ernest Landry also spoke on behalf of the contractor’s experience and that he is going to listen to what he says.

It was stressed that the purpose of the meeting was to determine what happens to the ‘ell’ once it is detached from the barn. Damage caused to the barn from the ‘ell’ necessitates its detachment.

Many present in the meeting stated they would volunteer to cut away the ‘ell’ from the barn in order to save money as it was unclear if there was an additional cost to the contractor for him to perform that work. Dan Doyle, Lesley Hume, Walt Roy, and Scott Ouellette volunteered to detach the ‘ell’.

It was agreed that the ‘ell’ could not be moved safely so the question was posed by Virginia Morse “Can the contractor restore the barn with the ‘ell’ in its current location?” Director Coombs will reach out to the contractor and get an answer.

Virginia remarked how much she appreciated the work Director Coombs has done regarding this project. Additionally, she commented on the cost of preservation (dollars) compared to the economic value to the community which admittedly is harder to quantify.

Director Coombs will inform Select Board Members Coppelman and Szwed and HC Chair whether the ‘ell’ needs to be moved prior to working beginning on the barn. If the ‘ell’ needs to be moved, another meeting will be held to determine the way forward.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:02p