

**Town of Kingston Heritage Commission**  
**Stained Glass Window Subcommittee**  
**Site Visit**  
**October 7, 2021**  
**Nichols memorial Library**

**Purpose:** of the site visit was to meet with Tom Driscoll, Sash and Solder Window Restoration, to observe an examination of the stained glass windows by a restoration specialist with a view toward establishing potential fundraising benchmarks.

**Members present:** Bob Bean, Walter Roy, Ernest Landry

**Others present:** Richard St. Hilaire, Road Agent; Tom Driscoll, Sash and Solder Window Restoration.

There are eleven stained glass windows in the building. The group observed Mr. Driscoll perform the examination of the windows to determine condition and make a recommendation regarding the best approach to treatment. Upon examining the windows Mr. Driscoll indicated his assessment that the windows need full restoration. Mr. Driscoll showed the group evidence of deterioration of the 120+ year old lead in the windows. This structural failure is typical of aging 19<sup>th</sup> century windows due to the composition of the lead. Also, many of the windows have defects such as – cracked glass, bowing and buckling, broken tie wires, previous poor repairs, etc. Mr. Driscoll showed the group examples of all these issues.

Regarding scope and timing of the repairs Mr. Driscoll indicated that different studios have different capabilities. Some may be able to remove and repair all 11 windows at one time while others may only have the capability to do smaller numbers (4 to 6) at a time depending on the size of the studio and staff. He suggested that it might increase opportunity for competition if the RFP allowed the project to be completed in phases as well as all at once.

The group briefly discussed fundraising. Based on his examination, Mr. Driscoll will develop a rough estimate of the potential range of cost to restore the windows so the group can have some information on which to base its fundraising efforts. This is not a formal estimate or bid by Mr. Driscoll to perform the work. The group discussed the possibility of having one window restored initially so that a contrast could be made between a restored vs unrestored window. This visual representation could then be used as part of the marketing in the fundraising effort. Mr. Driscoll agreed to prepare a proposal to restore one window (Note: this was later put on hold).

The visit ended at approximately 11:15.

Respectfully submitted – Ernest Landry

Disclaimer: These subcommittee minutes are reviewed and approved (with or without amendments) at the next subcommittee meeting. The original minutes are posted as submitted; any amendments may be found in the minutes of the subsequent meeting in which the amendments were made.