

A Committee meeting was held on Monday, February 24, 2014 at the Municipal Office Building in Star Lake for the Wanakena Footbridge. The meeting started at 6:00 PM.

Present: Mark Hall, Allen Ditch, Susan Westbrook, Sherman Craig, Annette Craig, Judy Hastings, Ray Keith, Tom Sauter and Hope Dolan.

Community Liaison- Kathy Nevill has stepped down as the community liaison. Mark asked for suggestions on whether to fill this position or not. It was suggested that as long as there are updates put out on a regular basis on the websites and Facebook pages, there might not be a need to fill this position.

Fundraising – Allen reported that they have collected about \$250 already from the jars that are around town. The website is up and running, people can donate through PayPal. He feels that many people are waiting to donate until we have a cost of what it will take to repair the bridge. The Historical Association has received \$6,884.00 so far that is specifically for the footbridge.

Grant Writing – Susan had a very productive meeting with Heidi Ames from the County. The County can do the grant work for \$1,700.00. This will not be necessary, since we have many people with grant writing experience. Susan notified people to keep timecards for their volunteer hours spent on this project; it can all be used towards any matching grants.

Susan has been in contact with a gentleman from Cranberry Lake that will try to get her invited to apply for funding through the Brotherton Foundation. The Town can also apply for many different funding sources like the Consolidated Funding Application, The River Valley Redevelopment Agency, and ANCA. It will be important to know if the bridge will be allowed to stay on the Historic Register, as that has more funding options.

Regulations – Sherman has talked with the APA, DEC and the Army Corp of Engineers about what is required. There is a joint application that will need to be signed by the town.

There was discussion on raising the bridge up about 3-4 feet. If handicapped accessibility were required, this would require a long approach, which may make it unfeasible.

Salvage & Reconstruction – Tom Sauter discussed talking to the County about helping out with getting the bridge off the ice. He feels that once the bridge is freed from the ice, the engineers can come in and see what needs to be done to fix or replace it. Many options have been discussed, but the town board is concerned about cost and safety to the people doing the work. The board has directed that we wait to see what will happen when the ice thaws. There were suggestions of using a skidder or a bulldozer to pull on the cables, calling in Fort Drum or the National Guard. Mark will be talking to Bill Dashnaw from the County.

Mark will send out an email when there are updates to give or if he feels we need another meeting. The meeting ended at 7:24 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Hope M. Dolan, Town Clerk