

Fine Town Hall Committee

(A subcommittee of the Clifton-Fine Economic Development Corporation)

Meeting Minutes

June 29, 2016

A Special Meeting of the Fine Town Hall Committee (Committee) was called to order at 7:01 pm by Co-Chair Eldon Shaw.

Members present:

Eldon Shaw and Dean Moore, Co-Chairs, Pamela English, Judy Russell, Gerald Follett, Genevra Shaw and Bernard English.

Also in attendance were Audrey Hall, and Town Councilors Barbara Horner and Jeremy Thompson.

There were about 50 members of the community present (see attached sign in sheets).

Business

- Co-Chair Eldon Shaw advised that the meeting had been requested to determine what the Committee's plans were for work on the Fine Town Hall building.
- Jeremy Thompson then discussed what the Town Board would like to see for further discussions about the use and future of the Fine Town Hall.
- A discussion of uses of the building by various groups and individuals was held, including the Fine Town Hall Committee, the Home Bureau, several individuals have used the building in the past for things like funeral luncheons, baby showers, birthday parties and similar events, and by community groups for things such as hunter safety courses just to list a few types of uses that have occurred.
- The discussion then involved issues of the past regarding the work the Committee had done to improve the building and issues in obtaining approval from the Town Board in getting approval to move forward on securing repairs to the building roof. Several members of the community raised issues on problems they had experienced in the past on obtaining permission to use the building from the Town.
- Barbara Horner then suggested that we should start to move forward and not dwell in the past.
- Barbara Horner then passed out a sheet she had completed with what she wanted the committee to address at the meeting, consisting of a two page list of questions to the committee; an information sheet titled "Fine Town Hall Committee, Moving Forward" which looked like it had been an agenda item from the Town Board; a page from the Crawford and Sterns Report (page 26) listing Conclusions and Recommendations; a copy of the Fine Town Hall survey sheet that the committee had developed and used in the past; and a Building Use Policy for the Fine Town Hall and application, as amended by the Town Board dated 11/11/2015.

Fine Town Hall Committee

(A subcommittee of the Clifton-Fine Economic Development Corporation)

Meeting Minutes

June 29, 2016

- The committee advised that they were unprepared to address the items on the handout she presented to them as they had just received it. Jeremy Thompson also stated he thought the committee would be unable to address this having just received the information.
- Barbara Horner then addressed the Committee about funds that had been raised during the summer of 2015 and had not been submitted to the Clifton-Fine Economic Development Committee (CFEDC). Barbara Horner then stated that this was “public money” and needed to be handed in immediately. Bernard English then stated that the Fine Town Hall Committee was a subcommittee of the CFEDC and not a committee of the Town of Fine and therefore there was no “public money” involved what was raised by the Committee. Eldon Shaw and Pamela English then addressed the problems in the past by both in submitting money to the CFEDC in that the treasurer was difficult to contact and failed to return telephone calls. The current CFEDC treasurer, Kimberly Nolan, was present at the meeting and stated that she would be available to discuss how best for the committee to submit any funds raised to their account at CFEDC.
- Eldon Shaw then addressed the need to pursue grants for any major repairs to the Fine Town Hall, and questioned if the Town Board would be willing to either look for grants or apply for grants since they are the owners of the building and would ultimately be required to back any grants requested. This was discussed and Barbara Horner stated that the Committee would need to seek and apply for any grants they wished to obtain for the building.
- Eldon Shaw then stated that the Committee felt that the Town Board was not in favor of the Committee doing any work to secure the building, an example was the roof for the building that needs to be repaired. Prices were obtained during the summer of 2015 for both a repair and replacement of the metal on the roof, the Town Board did not allow the committee to move forward, however failed to give a reason. The Committee feels that the roof repairs were needed to secure the building from any future leaks while it moves forward on any other actions. Barbara Horner then raised the Crawford and Sterns report of repairs needed to the building and stated that there had been no action on the recommendations. The Committee stated that until 2014 they were unaware of the reports actual contents, since it had not been submitted the Committee by the Town.
- Barbara Horner then again addressed the Committee on fundraising actions and reviewed the handout she had presented to the Committee earlier in the meeting. Barbara then asked again if the Committee could address anything that they had completed on the building. The Committee advised that they had repaired the handicapped access to rear of the building and also completed the handicapped access to the front of the building, the Committee also reimbursed the Town for the cost of the hood in the kitchen and for the cost of the 3-bay sink to bring the kitchen into compliance with code requirements. Barbara Horner then addressed the commercial prep-table for the kitchen and asked where it was, the Committee advised that the table had been purchased by the Committee and the Home Bureau and that they had placed it in a locked storage room in the building.

Fine Town Hall Committee

(A subcommittee of the Clifton-Fine Economic Development Corporation)

Meeting Minutes

June 29, 2016

- Members of the community in the audience then asked Barbara Horner about the ability to obtain access to the building since the Town Clerk's office is closed several days a week and closes before many people are able to get to the office from work. They also discussed the fees that the Town had established. There was no resolution of this issue.
- Eldon Shaw then addressed the funds that the Committee had raised and what would happen if the Town Board closes the Fine Town Hall. Kimberley Nolan stated that he CFEDC would hold the money in the account for the Committee for its use as it deemed necessary for the building. Jeremy Thompson stated that there had been no proposal submitted to close the building and that the Committee should move forward to show how it is used and when and submit that to the Town Board.
- Barbara Horner then again addressed the handout she had submitted and stated that she felt it was important to move forward and not dwell in the past.
- At the point that Barbara Horner again addressed her handout a motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Bernard English
Secretary

Adopted as presented at meeting of 7/26/2016