

Houston Barn Committee  
DRAFT Meeting Minutes  
February 7, 2022

Present: Lee W., Don H., Dave F., Jason L., Louise C.

Absent: Celina H.

Meeting called to order at 3:10 p.m.

The Sept. 17, 2021; Nov. 20, 2021; Dec. 4, 2021; Dec. 27, 2021 and Jan. 18, 2022 meeting minutes were approved as written.

The Houston Barn State Registry of Historical Places application is completed and ready for submittal. Louise attended a Select Board's meeting on January 31, 2022 to seek approval to send the application into the NH Division of Historical Resources. A brief discussion centered around listing the Houston Barn on the State or National Registry since ARPA funds will be used. The concern was if federal monies were used it would require the rehabilitation of the barn to follow strict National Registry guidelines. It was suggested that Neal contact Ben Wilson, Director of NH Historical Resources Division, to clarify the use of ARPA funds.

LCHIP Intent to Apply form was submitted along with the Ladd Timber Framing report but Louise received an email from George Born, Historic Resource Specialist, stating the application will need to be resubmitted after May 1<sup>st</sup> for the new round of grants and a new way of submitting the application online will be updated by then.

Jason will adjust the power point for the February 9, 2022 budget hearing on February 9, 2022 to reflect the Select Boards' recommendation for the barn stabilization plan. He will send it out for the committee's review then submitted to Neal for the Budget and Bond hearings.

Reviewed the FAQ's and made more adjustments. The final document will be sent out to the committee for their final approval then it will be sent to Neal to put on the town website. It was suggested to ask if the questions could have a drop-down option because the it is 3 pages of questions readers may not want to read that many answers.

Bond hearing will be February 14, 2022 at the town hall at 6:00 p.m. The committee will be present to answer any questions. There was some concern on how the warrant article was written because it was included the ARPA funding. Neal will be asked to clarify if the article fails does that mean the ARPA funds can't be used? (Committee did not have the updated warrant article had been changed to exclude the ARPA funds as part of the bond warrant.)

It was suggested the committee hold a couple open houses at the barn to give residents the chance to see the interior of the barn and to ask questions prior to town meeting. Two dates have been set and Neal will be contacted to ask permission. The first open house will be Wednesday March 5<sup>th</sup> 11:30 – 1:30 p.m. and Saturday March 9<sup>th</sup> 11:30 – 1:30 p.m. A notice will

be sent to Susan Covert asking her to distribute through her mailing list. Neal will be asked to post on the town website and Facebook page. Prior to the open house tarps and Christmas lights will need to be removed from the Breakfast with Santa event held in December.

Town Meeting will be March 12, 2022 9:00 a.m. at the high school. The committee will meet at least once prior to town meeting to discuss the feedback from the budget and bond public hearings and the barn open houses. The FAQ's will be available at the town meeting.

#### Next Steps

Lee will write up the open house invitation.

Jason will update the power point.

Everyone will do a final review of the FAQ's.

Louise will contact Neal about the open house and FAQ's being posted on town website.

Next meeting: February 25, 2022 8:30 a.m. at the Slusser Center.

Meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Louise Carr