

Houston Barn Study Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
April 15, 2021

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

Absent: Justin P., Ben W.

The meeting was called to order at 8:32 a.m. The March 19 2021 meeting minutes were approved as written.

Louise informed the committee that she just received an email letting her know that the Preservation Alliance has approved the barn assessment grant. Once the Alliance assigns a barn contractor to the project then they will be sending paperwork that the Town will need to sign. The letter will be sent attention to Louise so that she will know when it arrives and what the next steps that will need to be taken. She will inform the committee after the paperwork has been received. Once a date has been set for the contractor to do a walk-through Louise will inform the committee so anyone who wishes to be present will be able to attend.

Pete has not received the estimate yet on the cost of a new facility for DPW field maintenance in the event that the barn should be. He will follow up with the contractor.

Don informed the committee that Greg, Director of Buildings and Grounds, only received one estimate for the temporary tarping of the south side of the Houston Barn. The estimate was just under \$7,400. There was a discussion on the urgency of having a temporary fix for the roof. Don & Pete will go to the barn during a rain storm to see if there is any evidence of leaking and if so, how much. This information would help to determine if the roof could withstand another year or two without causing further harm to the barn. If it is determined that the leakage is causing further damage to the barn then it will need to be decided if the tarp should be installed or should a new roof be put on instead if the money is available. There were concerns about putting on a new roof until we have all of our estimates together for making the barn stable and having the Select Board commit to preserving the barn before moving forward. There were comments in favor of a metal roof over asphalt shingles so at some point estimates will be sought for both options. Louise contacted Neal for permission to get estimates with the understanding that Dan Blanchette will be part of the conversations so everyone is staying informed. It was recommended that the estimates be for time and materials since the cost of shingles can fluctuate. There was a question about the warranty on the shingles that have failed. It is known that several large manufacturers' have sold defected shingles and settlements have been given. Don will ask Dan if he recalls when the shingles were installed. Depending on the age of the roof it may not be worth seeking a settlement because of the depreciation factor.

Don and Pete will be talking to the sports groups over the next month to ask questions about their storage area that they are currently using at the barn. They will also ask them to clean up their area as the equipment is moved out.

Louise reached out to Josh Heino regarding the barn removal estimate. He still needs to consult with a couple barn experts before finishing up his estimate.

Next meeting will be May 21, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. via Zoom.

Being there was no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:18 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Louise Carr.