Heath Building Use Committee-Approved Minutes

March 22, 2021

Virtual Meeting began at 5:32

Members present: Susan Gruen, Victoria Burrington, Pat McGahan (recording), Mary Sumner, Barbara Travers, Pamela Porter, Lyra Johnson-Fuller, Eileen McVay-Lively (member ex-officio), and Hilma Sumner, town coordinator. Robin Jenkins was unable to join us.

Pam had sent Pat revisions on building policy from last meeting.

We went over minutes from March 8th meeting. Mary suggested adding 18 Jacobs Rd. to Foot Clinic vote so we know where it was taking place. Barbara made a motion to approve minutes as amended, it was seconded and voted unanimously to approve.

Review of building policy: Under community use, we were struggling about fees/donations. Barbara is unsure about waiver for donations, suggested to make wording different. We could lead with the idea that people should pay donations. Pam explained that if someone wanted to use the kitchen for Good Neighbors bread making for example, we wanted to have authority to not have to insist on a donation. Select Board had said we don’t have authority to adjust fees, but there are certain cases where we can’t wait to ask the Select Board to approve. We can take out “suggested” and word it “The HBUC reserves the right to waive donations.” Or word it “may”. When a charitable event request happens, we want to have the option. How do we define charitable? We’ll move on for now.

Barbara Travers has an update: She and her family are moving back to Cambridge for her children to attend school, so she may not be able to volunteer for future things, but wants to continue on committee.

Select Board has asked us to present them with a report of the committee’s progress, etc. Pam volunteered to write it. What should be included in report: Update on kitchen, we haven’t pushed to rent buildings because they are closed to public thus hampering us. We’ve done a lot of work on building use policy. People have been requesting use of the buildings. We can report on rentals/upcoming rentals. Pat’s work on the on-line calendar should be included. Going forward, can we do inventory, look at storage for buildings? There is a process to follow for removing things not being used from buildings: we ask first if anyone in town needs it, then we can dispose of it. Hilma noted that we would need to ask BOS about disposal of town owned items. Is there a list of inventory? Susan noted the BOS has list of Community Hall inventory from 4-5 months ago. Eileen noted it is a big challenge to not be able to go into the senior center to be able to clean and do inventory, can we ask BOS? Susan said she had asked a member of the Select Board if they could clean upstairs/do inventory for a day. Hilma suggested that as part of the report Pam is writing there be a section that asked permission to be able to get into buildings to clean as a whole for all buildings. We can request for access in small groups. We may need to meet separately before to review report next Monday.
Pat: review of upcoming events, let’s look at online calendar: We need to add town elections, new requests, take learning hub off after April 1 (?). Foot Clinic for seniors needs to be added for May 18 & 19, Eileen will put in a request for these dates to committee and Select Board. New requests: One from Susan Gruen for young weavers. Her proposal is to have students from last summer attend; each student has their own loom and can stay 8 ft. apart. Jeanie Bruffee will co-teach. It will start on April 10th, from 9:30-12:00. They will decide if they will meet every other week, 5 students total, 3 to start. Request to use bathrooms. It was suggested that 18 Jacobs Rd. be a back-up location, Susan will have it at her home if request is denied.

Discussion: We will need a review of a clean-up procedure. There is a weaving studio available at Hawlemont and the school is re-opening, this seems to be an ideal place for the class. Susan noted it would be too much, too stressful for the children, so they plan to do classes on the weekend, every other weekend. The downstairs of community hall is in disarray, heavy equipment there, let’s think of safety with the kids using the bathrooms. Pam loves the idea of weaving class, wants to figure out how to use Community Hall. Randy Crochier told Susan they could open the door or windows for ventilation. We would like to recommend this, but Select Board has to approve. Susan is volunteering her time for class. We should be careful about waiving donation for committee member. Barbara suggested this as a test run, benefit to community, should just ask for the one first date. Eileen would like to put in request for the senior art class. Susan will re-submit request.

Jonathan Diamond’s request: The group needs to only come after town meeting is over. Jonathan should specify dates for April vacation-Sat. Sun. Pam amends motion to approve. Pat accepts, and 2nded. Only approving the spring dates? Not sure about approving summer dates. Bi-weekly Silks and Scriptwriting April 3 thru July 10 is what we’re looking at now, need to ask Jon to write another proposal for summer dates. Hilma recommended that we wait until we have all documents for next week for Select Board. They can approve the dates & the fee. Pam will submit this. It was unanimously voted to approve.

We will table fire fighters’ request until next meeting.

Baby Shower request from Mary Sumner: Mary noted there would be about 14 people, almost all of whom have been vaccinated, some attending via Zoom. Pam made motion to vote to approve, Barbara 2nded, all voted in favor of approving shower request for April 10, with Mary abstaining from vote.

Adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lyra Johnson-Fuller