

Danville Train Station Committee Minutes

Meeting of September 14, 2021, 5:30-6:40 pm

Location: Danville Town Hall Meeting Room and via Zoom

Attendees: Michael Hogue, Rob Balivet, Kate Whitehead, Ted Houle, Patty Conly, Laural Ruggles, Kitty Toll and Peter Crosby

The Meeting was opened at 5:33 pm by Michael Hogue, chair. The Danville Train Station Committee (DTSC) is a subcommittee of the PC. Michael took roll, no guests present, and submitted the agenda for approval. The agenda was approved.

Minutes from the July 13th meeting were reviewed and it was noted that we did have a quorum at that meeting so the minutes were changed and approved. August 17th meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

Chair-Michael Hogue

Michael reminded the team of the importance of capturing the hours and tasks that we expend on the DTSC. He emphasized capturing September while memories are still fresh and then attempt to reconstruct your time to the first meeting in 2020 using minutes, emails, and messages as a base reference.

Michael also reminded each team leader to develop a calendar of critical dates by task (such as signing a contract) as well as when funds need to be in hand to meet the time lines, including the amount. The first iteration will be a very rough but we will adjust as progress is made on many of the outstanding issues.

Kate and I met with Chris Town, VP North Country Health Centers, to assess the Danville Health Center interest in renting the freight room for a wellness program. Chris mentioned that their Hardwick operation set up a wellness area in the basement of their clinic with a small kitchen and exercise area for staff and patients. However it closed down as a result of Covid, so they have very limited experience in this area. However they are interest in wellness programming. Kate's team will need to draft a plan that meets our needs to use as a catalyst to start the conversation.

Michael reported that the Select Board is in favor of an independent contractor position for a grant writer/administrator/coordinator. He suspects that we will have to develop a job description that they can act on.

Building/Land Team – Sally Fishburn co-chair

Rob reported that we have not been able to find a survey of the property lines. He is still working on it.

Sally also reported that we met with the consultant for VHCB to record what features of the train station will be identified for historic importance that will require preservation.

Use Team – Kate Whitehead co-chair

Patty Conly confirmed the rescheduling of the station celebration for October 3rd coincident with Danville's Autumn on the Green from 1-3 pm with 2 pm being the presentation to Archie Prevost.

Kate reported that the VCHB grant has been submitted and the PTV grant (Freeman) was next in line. She also reported that the VOREC (Vermont Outdoor Recreation Communities) grants letter of interest had been submitted. We expect to hear the first week in October

Kate is working on the Department of Historic Preservation Grant due mid October. The Preservation Trust of Vermont is filing for a Freeman grant for us as well.

Funding Team-Kitty Toll co-chair

Kitty briefly outlined the fund raising plan but indicated we need to settle on the Phasing scope.

Peter opined that it is difficult to have back to back fundraising for a two phased project and encourage the team to settle on the full scope.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 pm..

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Hogue
Chair