

~~DRAFT COPY~~ approved at 3/27/14 meeting as written

Boodey House Committee Meeting

Feb. 11, 2014

Present: Cathy Orlowicz, Sherry Cullimore, Crissa Evans, with guest David Swenson, a private citizen. Meeting was convened at 6:30pm at the New Durham Town Hall.

We discussed our presentation made to the Board of Selectmen during their Feb. 3rd meeting. We were pleased with the town's leadership and their positive reaction.

David Swenson came to our meeting as a private citizen of New Durham, and his comments are not a reflection of any view point or representative the Board of Selectmen position with regards to the Boodey House; our meetings are always open for the public's input. With his expertise in economic development in both the private and non-profit sectors his suggestions were welcomed.

He thought that our presentation while informative needed to be more aggressive. His suggestions included developing our own vision, including phasing in parts of the project and including our strategies for completing the project. Perhaps we should look at the end goal; what the site and house would look like; how it would perform, and then work backwards to develop the phases. Maybe a cluster idea which might include Johnson's Market / restaurant, a gift shop on the site, use of the snowmobilers' trails in winter, sled dogs, as well as summer activities geared to our local population and the many tourists nearby.

We must ask ourselves, "Why are we special?" Look at the broad aspects of the Boodey House and what we could bring to the people here. If we want to operate year round list the reasons why. Not all the reasons can be accomplished yet they can be in our long-range plan.

We need to push ourselves hard to get our design (structure) concepts and costs out; these include foundation, walls, internal structures and furniture. This is our job now! Concurrently we need to imagine and plan for future activities to make this a vital and lasting project. We should think about reactivating the Blueberry Festival, partner with Johnson's on food and beverages, and generally make use of our local businesses. Combining these ideas into a long-range plan that can be divided into phases, smaller steps we can accomplish over time, and as money allows.

- 1) DO NOT LET ONE PERSON ON THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN CONTROL OUR NEXT STEPS.
- 2) DO NOT BE AFRAID OF THE COST. (The cost is what it is)
- 3) BE ABLE TO TELL OUR STORY IN 3-4 MINUTES. ("Elevator Plan," Our market, what does anyone want to come, economic development)
- 4) WHAT DIFFERENTIATES US?
- 5) WHAT DO WE NEED? (Hand out our bookmarks, etc.)

The Dept. of Commerce / Economic Development Agency is a good website resource to use. We should find out who our regional EDA contacts are. We should look at the local schools for help during this project, i.e. building, design drawings, etc. There is the Architectural Division at UNH, which might select us as a student project. In the future we might be able to set up an endowment for perpetual upkeep.

We thanked David Swenson for his input. It gave us renewed enthusiasm, and vigor, and a lot of food for thought.

As to the rest of our meeting, Cathy showed us an article she received on Elder Joseph Boodey, born in New Durham and who lived from 1773 – 1866; he traveled and preached up to his demise.

Crissa moved to accept the minutes of Jan. 28, 2014, as presented. Cathy seconded and the motion was passed. Cathy will post them on the clipboard in Town Hall.

Hal Evans got an estimate for a sign that may be attached to the trailers holding the Boodey House, located at the dump. It would be aluminum and coated, 4 x 8 feet and should last for 3 years. We will decide on this soon.

Sherry will ask Michael Kender to meet with us at our next meeting on March 27. We will ask him if he can offer information regarding the development of conceptual drawings of the Boodey House, for us and what his costs would be.

Terry Jarvis, one of the town's selectmen, asked to have a copy of the written portion of our BOS presentation from Feb. 3, 2014, to be attached to their minutes. We agreed to give it to her.

Our balance as of Jan. 28, 2014 was \$6,644.13, which includes the amount earned from Bingo on that date of \$105.

Crissa brought up a few Fund Raising ideas: a calendar of New Durham pictures (snowmobilers, Boodey House, a family home, Merry Meeting Lake, Ridge Church, etc.).

Cathy will bring the Annual Appeal letterform with her for our next meeting on March 27, at Town Hall. We can edit it and generally bring it up to date. The meeting adjourned at 8:40pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sherry Cullimore, Scribe