

Town of Brentwood Municipal Budget Committee
Minutes of November 11 2024 site visit at Historical Society Building

Members: Jack Mitchell (chair), Michelle Siudut (secretary), Jennifer Jones (BOS rep), Kat Niemiroski, Brian Duffy (Swasey rep)

Members not present: Alina Arida (excused), Gabbie Kelly

Guests: Historical Society President Dexter Swasey, Doug Finan

The committee met at the Historical Society Building at 5 pm. Dexter pointed out the boundary lines of the property. The building was built in 1852 and is town-owned.

The parking lot floods, which is compromising the stonewalls in the foundation.

Structural concerns include:

- Stairs to the basement are unsafe and also have no railing
- Evidence of pests entering the basement through foundation walls
- Windows are immovable, no opportunity for ventilation. There is no outlet in the basement for which to install a fan to help with ventilation.
- Ceiling beams in the basement show rot and evidence of bug-infestation
- Parts of the foundation show decay, need sealing
- Exposed-dirt floor in basement
- Walls are not insulated; windows are single pane
- Evidence of pests in the attic (definitely mice, not sure what else)

Currently there is an incinerating toilet, with no handicap access. They would like to install a well and septic to have a toilet and running water in the building. Estimates for 300-400ft drilled well are \$15K - \$18K. A point well may be an option (cost unknown, but much cheaper). Electricity would be \$1900. Septic design and installation \$15K-\$18K.

The alarm system in the building is 38 years old, and it was recently discovered it is not functioning. Installing an up-to-date system would require wi-fi, which the building does not currently have.

The CIP includes well, septic, parking lot paving, basement structural items. Jennifer asked about the potential to fundraise for improvements, as the library did for the amphitheatre. Michelle suggested ARPA funds be used; Jennifer confirmed there are ARPA funds available.

Visit concluded at 5:44 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Siudut, Secretary