

# Acworth Historical Society

Meeting Notes, June 10, 2024

Attending: Marianne Nevelson, Kathi Bradt, Jim Neidert, Lillie LeBlanc, Liz Bascom, Alison Ferrell, Ann Kosa, Helen Frink.

**Outreach/Website:** Alison Ferrell generously offered to pay the costs of setting up and hosting our website.

**Village Store:** On May 29<sup>th</sup> we hauled away trash from the store attic, but more needs to be taken out. Volunteers will meet at 5:30 on Thursday June 13<sup>th</sup> to open the Turnaround Barn and see about cleaning it out. Picnic tables will be set up behind the store.

Helen Frink met on June 7<sup>th</sup> to discuss the Historic Building Assessment with preservationist Jim Perkins, architect Dan Bartlett, and contractor Jeff Ingram who will provide estimates for repairs and rehabilitation. We voted to pay an invoice from Dan Bartlett for \$2,755. Funds for the building assessment come from the Preservation Alliance and the Acworth Trust.

We reviewed Dan Bartlett's design for rehabilitating the second floor of the store to create two one-bedroom apartments. A fire and safety code compliant stairway would be built behind the store to access these apartments. Its ground floor space would accommodate the electrical panel, furnace, pump, and tenant storage. The generator needs to be located at least 10 feet away from the building. Rehabilitation of the store is a long-range plan. If we apply successfully to LCHIP in 2025, construction could start in 2026 IF we have funds to match the LCHIP grant. Work would likely need to proceed in phases, beginning with foundation, roof, and carpentry repairs before undertaking a "gut rehab" of the upstairs apartment.

The sprinkler system required for the living space would need a 300-500-gallon water tank. Questions remain about the location and capacity of the well, under the driveway? Former store owners Gail Wilson or Dick Kangas might know.

**Treasurer's Report:** Kathi Bradt gave an end of May bank balance of \$18,564; that figure excludes grant funds from the Acworth Trust and payment of the \$2,755 invoice from Dan Bartlett. Property insurance is about \$5,000 per year, fuel oil \$4,000 per year.

**Welcoming New Members:** We will announce an open meeting Happy Hour on July 19<sup>th</sup> at 5 PM at the store to welcome townspeople to join. We plan to provide beer, wine and hors d'oeuvres. June 20<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for sending Mary Hildreth a notice for the Community Newsletter.

We will meet on July 8<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 in the town hall to prepare for our opening event. Our bylaws state that we will hold an annual meeting in July, when we elect officers and Board members.

Helen Frink