



MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 5, 2024

Members: Don McDowell, Christopher Palermo, Laura Streets, George Cormier, Richard Sargeant, Gloria Wing

Absent: Richard Craig

ADMINISTRATION and STAFF: Brent Raymond, Town Manager; Judi Alberi, Executive Assistant

PARTICIPANTS/GUESTS: Jaimie Welcome, Alex Cyr, Barbara Bowles, Dale Touchette, Jerry Throne, Skip & Maria Ward, Leah Hollenberger, Chris Demars, Tracey Rogalski, Gail Asam, Sheila Tarbox, Tony Cote, Tom Cloutier, Laura Green, Etienne Hancock, Barbara Percy, Jeanne Charbonneau, Deb Dever, Karen Autorino, Robert Budliger, Paul Baker

**participating via Zoom*

CALL TO ORDER

Don McDowell called the Alexander Hamilton Copley Trust Fund Board Meeting to order at 5:00 PM at the Tegu Building.

APPROVE MINUTES

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Copley Trust Fund Summary

Dick Sargent read from Mr. Copley's will regarding the intention of the Copley Trust Fund. The Fund is to be used for creating works of public utility and beauty for the use and enjoyment of the inhabitants of the Village of Morrystown. The fund was not intended for religious, educational or for functions that the town should manage. Projects must be paid for totally from the fund. There will be no commingling of funds.

2. Consideration Copley Country Club funding application

Karen Autorino, speaking for the Copley Country Club, requested funding to repair the rotting deck of the porch. They would like to replace the current deck with low-maintenance composite decking. Sections of the porch were exposed to the weather, and the screw holes are loose. It will not be safe to use after another winter. Dining on the porch is very popular. The membership consists of 50% to 60% Morrystown members. A recent bid for the work has been obtained from Arthur Stevenson for \$65,000. Chris Palermo suggested obtaining another bid prior to the next meeting in three months time, based on market value at that time.

Motion made by Chris Palermo to accept the Copley Country Club application for funds not to exceed \$65,000. Motion seconded by George Cormier. Motion carried (6/0/1). Richard Sargeant abstained.

3. Consideration Bijou Theater funding application

Jaimie Welcome, owner of the Bijou Theater in Morristown, explained her application for consideration from the Copley Trust Fund. The marquis at the theater is very old and has not been maintained for many years. It needs replacement. The theater provides entertainment for many adults and children in town. Gloria Wing informed Jamie that her application to the Copley Trust Fund did not meet the criteria as the theater is privately owned. Alternate opportunities were suggested for the theater repairs including Morristown Development Fund (MDF).

Motion made by Chris Palermo to accept the Bijou application. Motion seconded by Laura Streets. Motion failed (0/6).

ADJOURN

Motion made by Gloria Wing to adjourn. Motion seconded by George Cormier. Motion carried. (6/0)

Meeting adjourned at 5:37 pm

Submitted and filed this 8/5/2024.

Bonnie McDermott, Scribe

Please note all minutes are in Draft form and are subject to approval at the next meeting.