

Agenda
Town of Skowhegan
Skowhegan Opera House Committee's Meeting
June 29, 2021
3:00 p.m.
Municipal Building – Council Room and Zoom

Skowhegan Opera House Committee:

Cara Mason
Gene Rouse
Jeff Hewett
Jon Kimbell
Jim Preble
Fred Liebfried
Zebulon Green
Kelly Merrill

Others Present:

Renee Belliveau, Recording Secretary

Opera House Committee Meeting:

1. Discussion and decision to approve minutes for the following:
 - Opera House Meeting June 15, 2020.
2. Discussion with Jack Mehler Design on next action items for Opera House improvements.
3. Discussion and decision on next action items and make a recommendation to Selectmen.
4. Other Business.

Adjourn Skowhegan Opera House Committee's Meeting.

MINUTES
OPERA HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING
June 15, 2021
3:00 PM
Municipal Building – Council Room

Present:

Cara Mason, Chairman
Jeff Hewett
Jon Kimbell
Zeb Green
Kelly Merrill

Absent:

Fred Liebfried
Jim Preble
Gene Rouse

Others Present:

Cynthia Kirk, Recording Secretary

Public Present:

Lyn Govoni
Peggi McCarthy
Cary Wendell

Organizational Meeting:

1. **Appoint a Chairman for the Opera House Committee.**

Jeff Hewett nominated Cara Mason, Jon Kimbell seconded. Vote 5-0, motion carried.

2. **Appoint a Vice Chairman for the Opera House Committee.**

Jon Kimball nominated Zeb Green, Kelly Merrill seconded. Vote 5-0, motion carried.

Opera House Committee Meeting:

1. **Discussion and decision to approve minutes for the following:**

- Opera House Meeting February 18, 2020.

Motion by Jeff Hewett, seconded by Jon Kimbell to approve minutes from the February 18, 2020 meeting minutes as written. Vote 5-0, motion carried.

2. **Presentation regarding funding from the Friends of the Opera House Committee.**

Lynn Govoni presents to the board regarding the different grants that the committee had applied for and received. There are three grants that they are working on and awaiting decision on. There are two grants that need to be used before the end of 2021.

Jeff Hewett asks whether or not the Alford Foundation grant, which is pending, for up to \$250,000.00 where it's a full match, do we need to raise \$250, 000.00 to receive?

Lynn Govoni states she is not sure, it would be great if we could.

Cara Mason asks if the money raised is ear-marked for anything in particular or can it all be used for the Opera House needs?

Lynn Govoni answers that the first goals are for lighting and sound, since those two things are the most important updates that are needed. If people bring their own sound equipment in, it needs to be compatible and our current system is antiquated and needs to be updated.

Cara Mason states that we need to go to the Selectmen and ask them to accept the funding that has been raised and then we can figure out what we want to ask the Selectmen to go out to bid for to expend.

3. **Discussion and decision to send a recommendation to the Selectmen to accept the funds from the WesArts.**

Jeff Hewett would like to have a conversation with Jack Mehler, a consultant, first. Jeff Hewett motions to table this until next meeting. Seconded by Jon Kimball. Vote 5-0, motion carried.

4. **Discussion and decision to choose a portion of Phase I to put out to bid, and send that recommendation to the Selectmen for approval.**

Jeff Hewett would like to have a conversation with Jack Mehler first. Jeff Hewett motions to table this until next meeting. Seconded by Jon Kimball. Vote 5-0, motion carried.

5. **Other Business.**

Jeff Hewett tells the board that there is money being set aside to address the fire escape and the elevator. The fresh air intake has been installed and works well; better if not humid evenings or days. The electrical has been updated and there is

plenty of power for the Opera House now. The lighting in the audience has been changed and is a lot better now as well.

Kelly Merrill asks if the second floor is currently accessible by a wheelchair?

Jeff Hewett answers, yes, it is accessible now, except for the balcony.

Adjourn Skowhegan Opera House Committee's Meeting.

Cara Mason adjourns the Skowhegan Opera House Committee's Meeting at 3:37 p.m.