

**Town of Orford
Church Study Committee
Meeting July 3, 2023**

APPROVED

Attended by: Ann Green, Eva Daniels, Dave Smith and Jenny Littlewood

Minutes:

Jenny called meeting to order at approximately 1:15pm. Motion made by Jenny and seconded by Eva to accept Minutes of June 22, 2023. Following a minor typo correction, Minutes were approved.

Eva reported on recent Business meeting with the church members at which time they approved of the Committee using the church's postal box (#133) for correspondence. They also approved the dates of July 28, and 29 for the Open House the Committee will be holding for the Orford public. Jenny who attended this meeting as the representative of the Committee reported on her conversation with church members regarding their vision of the church. They hope that it will serve the entire community. Some would prefer that a not for profit assume ownership but realizes this is probably not a viable plan.

There was a discussion of an Open House presentation. Eva suggested three posters describing uses of the church, ideas for repurposing, and maintenance needs. Members reviewed the recent email from Heidi Peyton in which she indicated that due to business obligations she would not have the introductory letter ready for review by July 10. For this reason, she understands that the Committee may wish to have another member prepare a draft. Since time is of the essence, it was decided to proceed with sending an invitation to the Open House using a post card format. Jenny agreed to draft it for committee review and approval at next meeting with a projected date of mailing by July 17. Ann will contact Town Adm. Assistant Esther Dobbins-Marsh to determine if the Selectboard approved mailing and printing costs of the introductory letter now referred to as the postcard invitation.

A question was raised regarding the Church being in the Orford Village Historic District. Specifically, are there any restrictions on use or changes to the exterior or interior, etc.? Ann agreed to research.

2.

Ann mentioned that recently an Orford resident informally approached her expressing an interest in the Committee's charge and possibly joining the membership. She referred the individual to the Select Board. This initiated a discussion of increasing the Committee membership particularly because of an occasional difficulty in reaching an in-person quorum to conduct a meeting. As agreed, Ann will express this interest in an email to the Board Chair, John Adams.

Next meeting scheduled for 3 PM July 10 at the Church.

Meeting adjourned at 2:40PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Green (Secretary)