

TOWN OF ORFORD  
CHURCH STUDY COMMITTEE  
MEETING JULY 31 ,2023  
Orford United Congregational Church

**APPROVED**

**Attended by: Sylvia Paxton (Chair), Eva Daniels, Dave Smith, Ann Green, Jenny Littlewood, and Heidi Peyton.**

**Minutes:**

Sylvia opened the meeting at 1:05pm. She made the motion to approve the Minutes of July 24; seconded by Eva. There were no corrections and Minutes were approved unanimously.

Sylvia presented a revised list of Expenses for the church. She will collect information of the 2023 maintenance budgets for the Town Office building and the two libraries and share at next meeting.

Heidi presented a draft of a poster announcing the Open Houses and Tours scheduled in September. A few revisions were suggested and new draft reviewed next week. Heidi will also bring list of poster distribution sites. An 8.5 x 11 poster size was agreed upon. Invitations may be sent to special guests.

Heidi plans to present a draft of the introductory letter in meeting scheduled August 14, 2023.

An email that Ann received from Andrew Cushing of NH Preservation alliance was shared with committee members. This email was in reply to Ann's inquiry to the agency regarding the Orford UCC being the oldest wooden Gothic church in NH.

Plans for the Open House and tours were discussed. Sylvia will contact Vicki Schwaegler who may provide flowers. Heidi will check on wholesale cost of Cider. It was agreed to provide informational packets. Suggested content: Article 19 of the 2023 Town Warrant, possible uses of the Building, Budget of annual maintenance expenses, 2022 building and land tax assessment, and historical overview of the building that may include presentation of special historical architectural features such as the construction of the pews, and the chandelier.

In view of the agency's contract with the UCC to offer services of an Orford Senior Center, and as a courtesy, Jenny will keep Grafton County Senior Citizen Council Executive Director, Kathleen Vasconcelos, informed of the Committee's progress and community response to possibly repurposing use of the building.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:20pm. Next meeting will be held on August 7 at 1pm.

Submitted by,  
Ann Green