

**TOWN OF ORFORD
CHURCH STUDY COMMITTEE
MEETING AUGUST 22, 2023
Orford United Congregational Church**

APPROVED

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

Minutes:

Sylvia opened the meeting at 1:25pm. She made a motion to accept the Minutes of August 14; seconded by David. Ann proposed an amendment noting that Jenny Littlewood was not present at the meeting. Minutes as amended were approved unanimously.

Heidi's draft of the introductory letter was reviewed and minor revisions made. She will forward approved copy to Sylvia who will send to Town Adm Assistant Esther Dobbins -March for formatting on town letterhead. Heidi will select the color of paper. Esther will send to Staples for printing and folding. A Committee member will pick up when ready. Letters to be in the mail by Sept 1. Posters are being placed at selected sites throughout nearby towns. Sylvia suggested and all agreed to invite members of the Town Office personal and the Selectboard ½ or an hour before time for the public to attend to see the facilities of the building.

Plans for the Open Houses were further defined. Attendance is estimated at 75 or so. Eva said refreshment serving supplies will be provided by the church; flowers will be supplied by Vicki Schwaegler provided there is no frost; music will be arranged by Heidi; and food and drink will be provided by Committee members. There will be handouts and a Guest book. Heidi and Eva will arrange for a display of stored photos of the church. Committee members will wear name tags and will meet at 1pm on Sept 15 to complete preparations.

Additional advertising will include sandwich boards in front of the Church and Bridge Street announcing the Open Houses and possibly articles in Valley News and Journal Opinion. Ann agreed to contact the news media.

There was discussion of reaching out to Town organizations, Committees and individuals to encourage attendance. There was no definitive decision.

Eva said that she will be meeting with Andrew Cushing of NH Preservation Alliance on August 29 to see both churches and learn of the physical needs. He will be invited to attend one of the Open Houses as well.

Next Meeting will be held on Tuesday Sept 5 at 1 pm at the Church.

Meeting was adjourned.

**Submitted by
Ann Green (Secretary)**