

**TOWN OF ORFORD
CHURCH STUDY COMMITTEE
Meeting September 11, 2023
Orford United Congregational Church**

APPROVED

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

Minutes:

Meeting was convened at 1:05pm. Sylvia made the motion to approve Sept 5 Minutes; seconded by Heidi. Amendments were made to include sweet baked items to be made by Sylvia and lemonade will be included as a beverage for the Open Houses/Tours. Also, Dave corrected that the video of the inaccessible areas of the church was not made by a drone but rather Shawn Washburn's iPhone and will be shown as a video at the events. Minutes were unanimously approved as amended. Sylvia also noted a typo in Esther's name in the August 22 Minutes; corrected Marsh instead of March.

Final plans completed for Open House schedule next weekend. As initiated by Eva and her, Heidi reviewed the physical set-up of the vestibule, sanctuary, and vestry. Jenny will make some small savory bites. It was agreed that coffee will also be available. Eva shared interesting material about the church to be considered for display. Both she and Heidi will select and post items of interest. Sylvia will make name tags for Committee members and special guests. Eva advised that Andrew Cushing of NH Preservation Alliance is unable to come due to other commitments. It was decided to have a designated table furnished with a basket and pencils where participants may make suggestions for possible uses of the building. Sylvia will make a sign. Ann reported that events will be published in the Journal Opinion and VN calendar. The Committee will meet on Friday Sept 15 at noon to complete preparations.

Sylvia reported on a recent conversation with Anne Duncan-Cooley in which Anne indicated that there may be funding available from the Grafton County Economic Council if the town decides to support possible uses of the building that will be of benefit to the Orford Community.

Ann will write a brief history of the Church building and send to all committee members for review and approval as a handout. This will include information about the tower clock as provided by Dave.

Next meeting will be held on Sept. 18 at 1pm at the Church.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:45pm.

Submitted by,
Ann Green (Secretary)