

**CHURCH STUDY COMMITTEE**  
**Meeting October 23, 2023**  
**Orford United Congregational Church**

**APPROVED**

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

**Minutes**

Sylvia opened the meeting at 1:05PM and welcomed Guest Sally Bacon. Sylvia made the motion to accept the Minutes of Oct 16,2023; seconded by Eva. Minutes passed unanimously as read.

Eva reported that she will be giving a tour of the church building tomorrow as requested by an Orford resident.

Jenny and Sylvia read a few returned community surveys. Sally Bacon asked what will happen to the present Town office and Libraries if the community decides to relocate all to the Church building? Perhaps sell?

Sylvia reported that in today's figures, the rehabilitation needs of the present Town Office building would cost approximately \$650,000. This estimate was arrived from extrapolating the figure given in the 2018 Long-Range Planning plan. Square footage of the church sanctuary is 3036, the Orford Social Library is 2500 sq ft and the Free Library is 1750sq ft. According to the Library Committee report, 6253 sq ft would be necessary to accommodate Central Library.

Heidi, Jenny, and Eva shared drafts of their respective sections of the report for the Select Board and suggestions made. It was agreed that members would prepare the assigned sections of the Report and share with the membership by Nov 4 for discussion at next mtg.

Question was raised asking if the United Church of Christ NH Conference would have any say regarding the future of the present church. Eva did not think they would have any responsibility or authority.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:24PM . Next meeting will be held on Monday Nov.6,2023 at 1 PM at the Church.

Submitted by

Ann Green (Secretary)