

## JAN. 31, 2018 MEETING

### CUMBERLAND HISTORICA SOCIETY AND TOWN MANAGER

#### BUILDING QUESTIONS:

#### SAFETY CONCERNS:

1. Front granite front steps, vehicles blocking the handicapped entrance at the rear of the building, and the garden area walkway. These issues will be addressed by the Town in the spring.

#### BUILDING:

1. Resurgence Update: Bill Shane and Thomas Bennett have been e-mailing several times during the past months about getting a final report from Resurgence. To date, no response. (Linda Fulda, per Bill's ok, will send an e-mail to Resurgence...sent on 1/31/18...no response to date).
2. Future of the Building: This was the subject that Bill wanted to talk the most about. Following the bicentennial...and perhaps using the bicentennial as the beginning of a capital campaign to finance the project he envisions, he hopes that the school house could be moved to a site by the library and put on a foundation ... a foundation that would be climate controlled to ensure the safety of all the artifacts that CHS has. An architect would be needed to draw up plans for the connected expansion of the school house/library. The Town would pay for the move of the contents of the museum...but CHS will be responsible for cost of storing artifacts while the move and construction goes on. The cost for renting a controlled storage unit needs to be looked into by CHS. In the interim, CHS needs to begin to seriously look at what is at the museum...if something is not part of Cumberland History, then it needs to go. Curator Carolyn Small did note that CHS is sending things to other area historical societies when she finds something that does not belong to Cumberland. Bill has agreed to come to the March 15, 2018 board meeting to talk about the future of the building and to answer questions that board members have.

#### BICENTENNIAL:

1. Committee members: Thomas Bennett, Carolyn Small, and Shirley Storey-King
2. Time frame to begin planning: should begin soon. Bill also feels that a coordinator/planner be hired like Falmouth has done. The Town is putting \$10,000.00 aside each year for the event and will have around \$40-\$50 thousand for the celebration. He envisions a year long celebration.
3. Town incorporated on March 28, 1821; first town meeting April 9, 1821; centennial celebration July 2-4, 1921.
4. Role of the Cumberland Historical Society: We will assist but we will also do a project and/or event of our own

5. CHS Museum during the Bicentennial: We anticipate that the museum should and will be open to the public more often during the bicentennial year. We certainly do not want to be under repair during that time so hopefully the structural issues can be resolved before then. This is the plan...but waiting for the final report from Resurgence. The building will need some exterior sprucing up (trim paint, yard work, etc.). The Town will do the sprucing up...inside and out. Again Bill stressed the need for us to do some cleaning out and reorganizing.

#### CHS PLANS:

1. We are hoping to do a 5 year strategic plan at some point this year so having some idea as what the Town's plan is for the library expansion will be helpful.
2. Programming: We will be returning to offering programs on Cumberland and Maine history this year and hope to be able to use the council chambers and the West Cumberland Community Hall as venues.

#### TECH ADVICE:

1. A big THANK YOU to the Town for hitching us up to the internet.
2. Bill feels that a new computer for CHS makes good sense and that we could purchase a new one through the Town. The Town runs their computers through a monthly review for bugs, etc. and would also do that for a computer that we buy through the Town. He stated that old computers that are donated are donated because there is usually something not right with them. I noted that the Staples tech said the same thing as did Leigh/TD Bank.

Bill was given a copy of the questions/concerns...time constraints did not get us to the subject of LED light bulbs but he did say that any safety issues and building issues would be taken care of by the Town. Seeve and Mahar, the engineering firm next to the museum, would love to have the site of the school house as they are overflowing and would expand. Thus his thought of moving the school house to the library grounds. The CHS board would have to be 100% in agreement or the project would not happen.

Linda Fulda, Chairman, Board of Directors, Cumberland Historical Society

Carolyn Small, Curator, Cumberland Historical Society

