

Gretchen's Weekly Property Coordinator Update
March 29, 2013

Painting the Meeting House

The white walls and ceilings are done in the main room and the foyer. Jamie, our painter through Rick Messier, is now onto the grey trim. He's currently using the 10 gallons of Premium Behr paint which I found down in the basement (previously found by Deana and Buddy under the stairs in the Meeting House) that were purchased in 2001. He's an excellent painter. (FYI: He was the one, working with Stan Stopka, who painted ALL of the new Partners Village Store.) The one additional bit of work we've agreed upon is for him to paint the foyer floor. (Yes. He'll take the runner up.) I met with he and Billy Shaw, the project manager for Messier's, and we worked out how to coordinate the timing of the painting and carpeting. Jamie will do the trim first, and then the carpeting will (hopefully) happen, followed by painting the benches. Have I already mentioned how fabulous these guys are to work with?

Carpeting

Thanks to Kevin who delivered the carpet choice to Morency early this week. They should have received the deposit check from us by now, and the carpet ordering should be in the works. We are hoping that they can install it April 11-12, per the conversation mentioned above. It's a tight deadline for Morency, so this may not work.....but we can hope.

Electrical and Fire Safety Work in the Meeting House

Jeff Kobza finished up his work for us today. The green exit signs look way better than the red. The ones in the main part of the Meeting House are *not* un-noticeable.....prep yourselves for the jolt – but we had no choice in the size. He did excellent, neat and tidy work, though – really impressively clean.

All Security has installed the radio antenna in the attic of the Meeting House. They will not install the rest of the fixtures until all of the painting is done – so after today, they will be off site for a couple of weeks.

Electrical (especially Thermostats) and Fire Safety Work in the Community House

As a favor, Jeff installed the programmable thermostat in the FDS classroom today. I believe I programmed it correctly so that the room is warm Amy and the FDS crew on Sunday mornings. I completely reprogrammed the one in the main hall after last Sunday's disappointing performance, and I have been checking on it all week – I am optimistic it will work, though I realize many others ahead of me have thought the same thing.....

All Security installed the new alarm box, radio box, and smoke detector in the entranceway and the outside strobe light all this week. The Community House is now completely ready to be radio monitored to All Security's system. Their work in this building is done. They will wait until all of the work in the Meeting House is done before contacting the fire and building inspectors for walk throughs.

I, again, did not make progress on the fire extinguisher research – but I will have to next week, as these must be up to date before that inspection happens. I also have to figure out how to change those bulbs and/or batteries in some of the emergency lights that are not currently working.....

The Well

No word from Tom Leonard – but we weren't expecting any until next week – on whether the water quality test passed.

The Basement

Last Sunday afternoon, Buddy discovered that the basement was flooded with 2 inches of water. Seems the sump pump was unplugged at some point. We turned it on and watched the water recede. I used the space heater a couple of days to ensure the dampness was gone as much as possible. Seems okay now. We need to organize a work crew to clear out and organize that area at some point this spring.

Exercise and Flexibility Classes start April 1

Mary Derbyshire will start teaching her classes in the Community House 4 mornings a week beginning on April 1, for a total of 7 hours a week. She will send a check weekly to the PO Box. If this goes well, it'll be over \$800 a month, which would be excellent for us. She's been great to deal with thus far, and I am excited about this partnership. I cleared out a section of the shelves in the room off of the stage for her to use for her equipment storage. She's going to move stuff in tomorrow (Saturday). Deana offered to return the 2 very large tubs that have been there for some time, left by a previous yoga teacher.

One of Mary's regular clients showed up one morning this week – thinking the classes had already moved from Tiverton. He reminded me a lot of our dear Friend Frank Lepreau – elderly, slow moving, and arthritic. I am impressed that Mary gets people like this man to her classes. She says she has many like him, and that one of her goals is to keep people moving, and to help them do things like 'get off the floor' more easily! Maybe we all need to go. 😊

Cigarettes and other issues with AA

I will leave a note for AA this coming Sunday about the cigarette butt issue on the property, and ask them for a contact for me to have for their group on-going. In the meantime, I cleaned up as many of the butts as I could one day this week while I was over there. I will also post a sign on the back deck and purchase another "butt" receptical.

Community Outreach

The current president of the Women's Club and I are collaborating quite well on trying to cull the items on the shelves in the side room. 😊

I invited 5 members of the Westport River Garden Club, who park in our lot on Tuesday mornings and go for walks, in to the Meeting House to see the work. We had a nice little visit. They eventually got around to asking if the containers in the driveway would be gone by their annual plant sale in May....I assured them it was on our radar screen – seems they've been anxious about this.....

According to Deana, the Girl Scout Troop that left the closet full of supplies in the top of Potter House hasn't met in the Community House for several years. We decided to offer it all to Eliza Miley, who is leading the Brownie Troop that is meeting in the Community House. I emailed her – haven't heard back. I asked her to take what she wanted. I'll get rid of the rest (that we can't use, of course).

Tents for Book sale

On my to do list asap, as soon as I can find the name of the company....

Gretchen Baker-Smith