

The Wintonbury Historical Society, Inc.  
Building Committee  
Minutes of the Meeting held on March 1, 2000

The meeting, held at Bloomfield Town Hall, was called to order by Ed Stanley, Vice-President of the Wintonbury Historical Society, Inc. & Chairman of the Committee at 7:37 p.m. with nine members (Ed Stanley, Fannie Gabriel, Roberta Kania, Eileen Phelps, Marc Sitkin, Mary Murray, Sharon Steinberg, Bob Stiles, Janis Langston) and Eloise Marinos, Architect present. Two more members of the Committee (Bruce Hale, Sr. and Don Moore) joined the meeting later in the evening.

The Chairman stated that the Filley House restoration project is really “revving” up. The Development Committee, formed one year ago to be the fund raising arm of The Historical Society, has started to meet. Ed wants the Building Committee to start meeting once a month to deal with the issues that will increasingly come before the Committee for discussion and decision. The Building Committee’s responsibilities include oversight for the Filley House and the Southwest District School restoration and reports to the Wintonbury Historical Society Board of Directors. The Building Committee must also work with the Development Committee with regards to fund raising for the Filley House. The Development Committee was brought into existence to be a fund raising arm for the Wintonbury Historical Society. Because of this Filley House fund raising activity, there will be a need for a Building Committee representative to the Development Committee. It was mentioned that Jeanne Hunciker and Winnie Granger are members of both groups and one of them might make a good choice for this representative. It was agreed that Ed Stanley should talk to both these ladies to ask if one of them would be willing to be the Building Committee’s representative on the Development Committee. There will also be a need for the Assistant Treasurer to make financial reports regarding Filley House funds to the Development Committee. Carrie Allison is the temporary Chairperson of the Development Committee. Eloise Marinos, as Architect for the Filley House, expressed a need to know the relationship between these groups and how they relate to her client, The Wintonbury Historical Society, Inc.

Ed also stated that he is looking for a Vice-Chairman for the Building Committee. The Vice Chairman will take over the running of a meeting if Ed is unable to attend. Some of the upcoming milestones at the Filley House are the woodwork and then plaster removals and the Open House Event in June.

Fannie Gabriel stated that we have the \$25,000 Grant for Filley house restoration made in 1998 from the Town of Bloomfield that has been in a “holding pattern”. The Town is not going to take our need for funds seriously until we start presenting invoices against these original funds. We also need to prepare a financial statement of donations (monetary and in-kind), volunteer hours and auction proceeds for the period October 1998 to October 1999 (12 months) for the Towns matching funds. The request for these matching funds will be presented to the Town Council by Bill Bailey, Treasurer of Bloomfield.

Eloise Marinos, Architect, then took the floor to discuss the Architectural Timetable and Budget so that she can prepare a new schedule for the Filley house project. It was decided that the carpenters’ bills for the interior trim removal can be presented against the \$25,000 Town grant. She also stated that there will need to be a formal contract for the plaster removal. Eloise requested formal authorization to proceed with Phase II of the restoration project. Eileen Phelps moved that the Building Committee of The Wintonbury Historical Society authorize Eloise Marinos,

architect to proceed with preparation of the architectural documentation for the Phase II interior removals work at the Filley House. The motion was seconded by Roberta Kania and passed unanimously by those present.

A motion was also requested to authorize Ed Stanley, as representative of The Wintonbury Historical Society, to sign contracts prepared by Eloise Marinos for work at The Filley House. The motion was made by Janis Langston, seconded by Eileen Phelps and passed by those present.

The Committee agreed that we should move forward with the project ASAP with an attempt to have the plaster removals completed prior to the Open House Event in June. It will take about a month to get the documentation ready and then 30 days for the bid time. Phase III which is for stabilization of the structure can only proceed after the plaster removal. The goal for Phase III would be to do architectural and engineering documentation in May through September 2000. The bid work to give notice for September and to start work in October. The goal would be to have the permanent roof on the Filley house before another winter and to start maintaining the house's internal temperature at 50 degrees Fahrenheit by next winter to prevent further interior deterioration.

Phase IV start documentation as soon as November 2000, with bid period in February-March 2001 and construction in the Spring through October of 2001. This would include the porch and addition excavation and foundation work, masonry restoration and Town site work. Budget: \$130,000 - \$150,000.

Phase V, the in-fill construction could go on through the winter of 2001-2002 to include the framing for the porch and addition. Budget: \$70,000 - \$80,000

Phase VI the window and exterior trim repair, restoration and reinstallation and exterior painting would have a bid period in February 2002 and work scheduled for March through June 2002. Budget: \$80,000-\$110,000

Phase VII & VIII the electricals, plumbing and elevator would be scheduled for June through December 2002. Phase IX, insulation, interior finishing and final site improvements are scheduled for January through September 2003. Then Phase X the interior finishing. The goal for a grand opening date would be Fall of 2003.

Donations can be used to fund the private bidded work and the Town money for the publicly bidded work. Eloise stated that she would like to run the Consulting Engineer through the Architect's office. She will bill his work through her office with no mark-up.

The opportunities for continued volunteer effort were discussed: what is available and what various volunteers would like to do. Ed said that he would talk to the Town and see if he can get the work on the Well House and the Creamery included in the volunteers' scope of work. He also wants to see a Sub-committee for Volunteers of the Building Committee organized to oversee the Volunteer effort.

Eloise Marinos asked for a clarification of the relationship of the Development to the Wintonbury Historical Society. Fannie Gabriel stated that the Development Committee had been organized to provide major fund raising capabilities for the Filley House restoration project.

It was announced that Eileen Phelps, Roberta Kania and Ed Stanley have finished the historical research on the Filley House. Eloise will use this information to write the National Register of Historic Places Application for the Filley House. The goal would be to have received word that it is listed by the end of the year 2000. Eloise will prepare the agreement for the preparation of the Application.

Marc Sitkin said that he had not heard from Steve Hubbs, the high school student working on the Society's web site. Sharon Steinberg passed around several copies of a printout of the web site. There was a general discussion of the progress of the development of the web site. A domain name for the historical society was discussed. It was decided that BloomfieldHistory might be a logical one. Marc Sitkin asked for a motion to move forward with making arrangements for a domain name and hosting of the web site. Janis Langston moved that the Building Committee recommend to the Wintonbury Historical Society Board of Directors that the Society apply for a domain name, BloomfieldHistory, and make arrangements to have the web site hosted at an approximate cost of \$370 for the first year. Ed Stanley seconded and the motion was passed.

It was decided to have an Open House and Festival called the Filley Fest from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on June 24<sup>th</sup>, with July 8<sup>th</sup> as a rain date. The purpose of this event would be to attract as large an audience as possible to introduce the project to towns people and to attract additional volunteers and donations. If possible the plaster removal and clean-up would be done before the Filley Fest to have the House looking as presentable as possible. Eloise Marinos said that the Town will provide portable sanitary facilities for the House as soon as construction starts. Suggested activities for the Filley Fest were Speakers on the Victorian and Greek Revival Periods, Early Americana and a demonstration by a tinsmith. A subcommittee for the Open House was formed with Sharon, Ed and Mary as initial members.

Sharon Steinberg presented a proposal for an Education Subcommittee (copy attached). The feasibility of an Education Committee was discussed and the Building Committee proposed presenting it to the Board of Directors of the Society for development as an Education Committee to the Society as a whole.

The location of an apartment for a caretaker of the Filley House and grounds was discussed. Eloise stated that a final decision on the location needs to be reached soon. It was decided that because of the lateness of the hour, a subcommittee should be formed to discuss this topic and report back at the next Building Committee Meeting. The subcommittee was formed with Eloise, Ed, Eileen, Roberta, Marc, Don & Sharon.

Upcoming dates:

Wed, March 29 <sup>th</sup>	Board Meeting
Wed, April 5 <sup>th</sup>	Historical Society Regular Meeting
Wed, April 12 <sup>th</sup>	Building Committee Meeting
Sat, May 20 <sup>th</sup>	Plant and Bake Sale

The meeting was adjourned at 10:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janis Langston

**ELOISE MARINOS**

**ARCHITECT**

AIA ● NCARB

## *MEETING AGENDA*

DATE: 01 March 2000

TO: Building Committee, Wintonbury Historical Society

FROM: Eloise Marinos, AIA

PROJECT: Filley House  
NO: q8-200

### Items for Discussion:

1. Overall Schedule for Project
  - A. Review
  - B. Revise
  - C. Update
2. Funding
  - A. Town Matching Grant
  - B. WHS Fundraising efforts
3. Architectural Work
  - A. Schedule
  - B. Contractual Basis for Work – possible AIA or public works contracts
  - C. Public vs. Private
4. Consulting Engineering Work
  - A. Contractual Relationship
5. Construction Work
  - A. Contracts – through WHS and/or Town
  - B. Public vs. private funding and review
  - C. Volunteer Work
6. National Register Nomination Application
  - A. Status
  - B. Projected Draft Filing
7. <sup>Steering</sup>Development Committee
  - A. Relationship to WHS
  - B. Relationship to Building Committee

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*MEMORANDUM*

To: Building Committee

From: Sharon Steinberg

Re: Proposal to Form a Research and Education Committee and  
Special Interest Subcommittees for the Capt. Oliver Filley  
House

Date: March 1, 2000

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A Research and Education Committee, comprised of Special Interest Subcommittees, is needed for the following reasons; attached to this is a proposed list of subcommittees that may be used as a sign-up sheet:

- All applications for grants require not only a narrative about the building, but also an extensive history of the people who lived there and their historical significance;
- The Society will work with the School Department to develop programs, activities, and resources applicable to all grade levels as well as to aid teachers in their own research;
- In order to generate donations for the Filley House and to encourage community participation in its restoration and development, people must be inspired as many of us are -- not only by the building's beauty and uniqueness, but by the Filleys, the Pinneys, and the LaSalettes, and what we can learn about their lives and how they lived;
- Research on the Filley House and all aspects of 19<sup>th</sup> century life will invite involvement by people of expertise and interest from all walks of the community; everyone will have the opportunity to belong in some way to the Filley House;

In addition, I suggest that we develop a focus statement about what the Filley House will become, what year(s) the house or parts thereof will be restored to, and extend an open-hearted welcome to everyone to get involved. If people feel as if they "own" the house, they will protect and cherish it for generations to come, as we do.

Let's discuss, argue, agree, disagree, and share our thoughts. All comments, criticisms, and suggestions are welcome.

<b><u>Research Sources</u></b>	
Birth records	Death records
Church records	Baptism records
Newspapers, popular books and Magazines	Societies – temperance, abolitionist, sewing, etc.
Town meeting minutes	City directories
Advertisements	Census records
Popular entertainment, music	Court records
Social workers' reports	Soldier pension records
Genealogies	Registry of deeds
Clerks' offices	Historical societies
Tax records	Marriage records
Historical museums	Local scholars
Libraries	Obituaries
Cemetery records	Old maps, aerial photos
WPA records	Probate records, inventories
Family chronicles and papers	Photographs
School records	Class rosters
Graduation books	Concert flyers
Religious organizations	Medical records
Letters	Association records
Fraternity records	Military records
Masons	Fraternal organization records
Church newsletters	Union records
Diaries	Account books
Transportation available	Art museums

**Research and Education Committee:  
Subcommittees and Sign-Up Sheet:**

Role of Churches & Synagogues  
Denominations  
Church Records

Genealogy -- Filley Family

Genealogy -- Pinney Family

Economy  
How did people make a living?  
Who were the wealthiest in town?  
How was wealth measured?

Diaries and Role of Women, 1830-1900

Culture: Music, Newspapers, Magazines

Agriculture  
Gardens, Herbs, Orchards, Crops,  
Farming, Dairying

Census Research

Doctors, Midwives and Herbalists

Children  
Childrearing practices  
Schooling  
Toys

Stone Houses of Bloomfield

Inventions and Home Comforts

African Americans in Bloomfield  
The Underground Railroad  
Abolitionists  
Genealogy Group  
Slavery

Tinsmithing  
The Filley business, work, marketing