

SAUNDERS HOUSE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Monday, May 20, 2019, 10:30 am
Byers-Davidson Room, Saunders House
88 Middle Street, Gloucester, MA

Attendance: Prudence Fish, Bill Remsen, David Rhineland, Joann Riley, Mern Sibley (Chair), and Library Director Deborah Kelsey

Not Present: Barbara Lambert

1. Welcome and introductions. This meeting is being recorded.
 - a. The meeting began with a tour of the basement and discussion of how to clean it, and how to best address a sloping sill.
2. Approval of minutes of April 20, 2019. David moved to approve the minutes as presented. Bill seconded and the minutes were approved.
3. Reports from Reports from relevant meetings: Buildings and Grounds (B&G), Library Building Committee, and Board of Trustees:
 - a. B&G: George Leavitt plans on starting the gutter work in a couple of weeks.
 - b. Library Building Committee: There was a public meeting last week to discuss cost estimates for renovating versus building new. The Committee voted to recommend renovating. The Trustees voted to accept the Committee's recommendation.
 - i. The SHSC discussed the relationship of the Historic District Commission to the process and how best to proceed. Deborah will reach out to the Chair of the Commission. We will also have to reach out to the Gloucester Historical Commission.
4. Saunders House basement – next steps
 - a. Bill can provide contacts for people to repair the sill in the basement.
5. Saunders House project description for Feasibility Study – Third draft editing by the Committee
 - a. The group discussed further edits for the Saunders House section of the Feasibility Study document.
 - b. They brainstormed a title and opted for *The Historic Saunders House and its Relationship to the Library Renovation Project*.
 - c. The Committee revisited the question of floor load capacity for the Saunders House. They agreed on 150 pounds per square foot for the first floor and 100 pounds per square foot for the second floor; the third floor will be preserved as it is. These include general code-compliance structural strengthening, electrical and

mechanical system upgrades, conservation of historical finishes, and ADA compliance to the basement and first and second floors.

- i. They discussed adding other specifics but opted against having a laundry list of needs.
 - d. As part of the conversation they touched on logistics for preserving the Saunders House during the renovation. Having separate mechanical systems for the two buildings will help as keeping a constant temperature in Saunders House is crucial for preserving historic finishes.
6. Mern moved to approve a floor load capacity for the Saunders House of 150 pounds per square foot for the first floor and 100 pounds per square foot for the second floor. Bill seconded and the motion was approved.
7. Next meeting June 17, 2019 10:30 am
8. 12:00 Adjourn. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Tracy Bowen

Motions Summary

Mern moved to approve a floor load capacity for the Saunders House of 150 pounds per square foot for the first floor and 100 pounds per square foot for the second floor. Bill seconded and the motion was approved.

Actions Summary

Deborah will reach out to the Chair of the Historic District Commission.

Bill will supply recommendations and contact information for sill repair work.