

The Trustees' Architectural Journey

January 8, 2018 -

The trustees discussed handicap access and reviewed notes from previous meeting minutes on this topic. They met with the Historical Society president and the Selectboard to express their interest in creating handicap access to the library. A plan was created to move the project forward despite the fact that there was no money and no land available for a well and septic system.

October 8, 2018 -

The trustees hired UK Architects of Hanover who was willing to wait for payment until after the 2019 Town Meeting.

March 12, 2019 -

The warrant article asking for an appropriation of \$12,500 to pay for an architectural study was passed. UK Architects was hired to develop a plan for handicapped accessible building entrances to both buildings and space for bathrooms and a research room.

July 25, 2019 -

Chris Kennedy and his helpers took measurements inside and outside the two buildings. Their design would use the land between the two buildings and would include space for one bathroom with a composting toilet. \$4,737 was spent for their concept plans. \$7,763 was returned to the Town.

September 06, 2019 -

Chris Kennedy presented his concept plans at a public meeting. The plans required the raising of the CHS building floor by 2 ½" inches to meet building code requirements. The trustees decided that they needed to find answers to the water and sewer question before making any further plans.

August 7, 2020 -

The Newton family offered to sell the Town the land necessary for a well, septic system, and a right-of-way access for maintenance. The trustees hired Tom Dombroski to complete a design and tell them how much land would be needed. He calculated 0.11 acres.

April 15, 2021 -

The annexation plan for 0.11 acres was brought before the Cornish Planning Board who reduced the size to 0.09 acres to meet the requirements for Village Zoning lots. They then approved the annexation, and the plan was filed with the Registrar of Deeds.

February 22, 2021 -

The \$6,500 for the land purchase was donated to the library by the Patterson Family Trust. Because land purchases by the Town needs voter approval, the purchase was put on hold until the March 2022 Town Meeting. The trustees placed the accessibility renovations on hold, too. Kathi Patterson suggested that the trustees should research the use of the former General Store building as a library.

May 24, 2021 -

After a library patron mentioned this same idea at a trustee meeting, the trustees voted to approach Colleen O'Neill about the possibility of moving the library to the store. She generously offered to donate the building after that meeting and sent a letter to be read describing the donation at Town Meeting.

June 8, 2021 - Town Meeting Day

Caroline Storrs reads Colleen's letter.