

Van Riper Meeting -- 12/12/19

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m.

In attendance: John Demmer, Pat Williams, Dante intindola, Judy Negra, Barbara Davide, Maryann Lauber, Allison Krupke, Janice Fraser and Marion Butler

The minutes from the last meeting were read. Barbara Davide presented the Treasurer's report. The reports were accepted.

OLD BUSINESS:

-- Dante met with the Verizon Tech the Wednesday before Thanksgiving: the phone contract had expired, we were paying too much; there were 2 lines (neither of which was working) @ 98.00/mo. Dante negotiated a 2-year contract for answering service only (the charge will be 63.50/mo, with a further adjustment bringing it to 58.00/mo.); calls will be forwarded to Dante's cellphone.

There was a brief discussion about the lack of fiber terminals in tne area which would affect future internet service.

NEW BUSINESS

-- Dante met with Scopos Hospitality Group re: possibiliees for use of the house -- it would cost one million dollars to convert it to a restaurant which may not be a good idea due to its proximity to the residential area.

-- the library has mentioned the possibility of an annex; but they lack the funds

-- John mentioned the possibility of a doctor or lawyer's office

Dante announced that Mauro Tucci confirmed that a twenty-year lease extension will probably be approved in January

It was decided that for now we should focus on the immediate needs.

Flooring was discussed: Barbara mentioned the difficulty of getting the lumber that's needed for a historic house. She thinks we should consult an architect. John said specialized flooring and installation is required because of the framework of the house. Dante mentioned that the dormers are not original and may be removed.

It was agreed that we should begin to look for people who can do the work that's required immediately: grant writer (Sue Scavone, Town Grant writer). Maryann suggested Barry (last name?).

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John wants to know the cost of the grant writer. Also, he'll get more roofing information.

There was miscellaneous discussion regarding: the Van Riper descendants (Dante doubts that they will contribute much in funds); John emphasized that the building has to support itself; Dante will get information re: State and National Registers; there was discussion of the possibility of contacting Martha Stewart.

There is a need for more security -- lights were stolen -- motion sensors may help; water is coming into the basement -- plywood and door may need to be replaced.

Goals for next month:

- make arrangements for audit (M. Forlenza and M. Thompson)
- find grant writer
- holiday fund raising

Dante gave dates for 2020 meetings (2nd Thursday of the month): 1/9; 2/13; 3/12; 4/9; 5/14; 6/11; 7/9; 8/13; 9/10; 10/8; 11/12; and 12/10. Dates will be booked with Kerri.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Marion Butler
Secretary