

TA Report 1.14.11

REMINDER: TOWN MEETINGS ARE BEING HELD AT THE SCHOOL in JANUARY

TOWN HALL WOW! We are just about half-way done! Please pardon our appearance. If you are looking for the Town Treasurer, Town Collector and the Assessors enter the lower level, go through the second set of double doors turn left and open the door to the Senior Lounge. All three departments are set up in make shift areas, working out of boxes, but their answering machines, phones and wireless internet and email is all up and running. Communication is key and the beauty of the modern age is if you can plug in you stay on task. Emptying this office was a monumental feat! Please thank these tireless workers if you see them for all the added work they have put in to make this “insulation” project possible.

It is amazing how one thing leads to another. A little project insulating the attic meant the ceiling had to be redone so the insulation didn't fall through. Application of the Stretch Code principles meant that air leaks in the attic had to be tightened up. To redo the ceiling, cover it with sheet rock and plaster, we had to empty the offices. These offices are very full, used to capacity. One single office has 13 file cabinets, some fire proof, made out of cement. The town hall has been on the renovation list for years. The Building Committee decided that it was best to take advantage of the disruption to do some painting and limited carpeting. The carpet in the Assessors, Treasurers and Tax Collector's office is synthetic, which is not ideal. It had to be replaced and a wool carpet for this space was 2 and half times the cost. The carpet going into the Town Clerk's office is wool. We are testing this product to see if it is something we can use again.

FIRE STATION CLEAN UP

A meeting with Boston LUST funds cost recovery team was confirmed today for January 24, 2011. Senator Stan Rosenberg and Representative Steve Kulik will be joining the Shutesbury Selectboard, Fire Chief and Town Administrator in a discussion about the repayment of the \$200,000 used this summer to remove 2000 tons of contaminated soil from beneath the fire station.

LFNAC held their last working meeting this Monday. They were joined by, OPM Mark Sullivan who continues to support and help coordinate the grant application process. The application review is very thorough. Edits suggested by outside reader/advisors are being input. The Committee went through another checklist to be sure the text is clear and the answers are fully answered without being redundant. Costs are being double-checked. Changes are being made to assure accuracy. The plan is to drive to Boston and hand-deliver the grant application to the MBLC on January 24.

The Committee has put in a massive effort on this project with assistance from Jen Davies-editing and proofreading, Elaine Puleo -reader, Mark Tuomenin-reader, Michele Sedor-reader. Michele Regan-Ladd, Martha Field (meticulous minute taker), and Dale Houle have all been passionate, devoted committee members as well as Library Trustee Chair Karen Traub who chaired the LFNAC Committee for over 3 years with unwavering vision. The lion's share of the grant writing, organizing, and compiling of the MBLC new Shutesbury library grant has been done by 3 other passionate, devoted committee members- Library Director Mary Anne Antenollis, Weezie Houle and current Chair Lori Tuomenin. If you are around town Monday morning January 24, join us for a Shutesbury send off for those carrying the packages to Boston.

250 Anniversary KICKOFF AT THE FIRE FIGHTER'S BONFIRE! Wonderful Event!

It was a clear crisp afternoon. The early week snow brightened the field. The fire

department's pyre was 15 feet tall! A stack of Christmas trees, future fuel, was a safe distance away. The fire department served up hot cider and hot chocolate that never tasted so good as it did in the freezing cold! The old horse arena served as a stage for singing and speeches. The 250th committee members were there early with music set up. But fingers were too frozen to play. Dagen Julty handed out songbooks and many from the growing crowd warmed themselves by singing joyous songs. It was awesome, just good old-fashioned fun. The kids were inventing games in the snow, the adults were chatting up a storm anxious for Walter Tibbetts to torch the bonfire. Rep. Kulik arrived with his wife Susi as the sun was setting. He congratulated the Fire Dept. for 60 years of service. This is also the Fire Dept. Anniversary year. Elaine Puleo, Selectboard Chair, spoke of early settlers that made the way for us, building 18 cubic yard homes, cleared fields and built common buildings. Here is to us Shutesbury! The 250th Anniversary has begun!

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