

## Notes from Town Hall Front Lawn Meeting – Wednesday, May 17, 2017

Attending: Tim Allan, Bob Bower, Marianne Howlett, Clyde Carson. Absent: Ray Martin

Issues discussed included:

- Overall goal. The committee agrees that the lawn project should improve the view of Town Hall arches, return to a single walkway and maximize grassy public space for use by the WFFF, Farmers Market and other town events.
- Lawn – There is a concern that the front lawn has become balkanized, with multiple walkways, flag pole, kiosk, fountain, etc. We would like to make it simpler, maximizing the amount of lawn. The goal would be to use sod variety that is for heavy use. There needs to be a commitment to the lawn, including irrigation and feeding it.
- Oak Trees – It was pointed out that the lawn had sustained regular traffic in the past and stayed green before the oak trees. The consensus is that the oak trees are not compatible with growing grass and will only make the situation worse as they grow bigger. We are looking to replace the oaks with different trees that symbolize NH and would turn colorful in the fall (sugar maples?).
- Bricks on walkway – The bricks on the walkway are at the point of needing to be replaced. Our thought is to replace the semi-circular walk with a straight walk, up the middle from the Main St. to the Town Hall.
- The flag pole – The trees block the view of the flag from the road. The flag pole also interferes with an unobstructed view of the town hall arches. We would like to relocate the flag pole to the right side of the lawn.
- Fountain – the fountain needs to be repaired and is in the way of the proposed walkway. We want to find a new home for it.
- Christmas tree. The spruce tree is getting big and will bump into the building in not too many years. It may be time to remove it and look at alternatives for Christmas decorations.
- Need to run a 5" water main into the town hall for fire sprinkler. This should be done before any new lawn is installed.
- Handicap access from Main Street should be looked at as part of the project.
- A future issue will be access to Town Hall from the parking area behind the Foot Hills.
- The committee will meet again on Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup> at 4:30.