

**Building and Grounds Report
April 2020**

Committee Members:

Paul Aroune Mike Sullivan Jim Plukas Rob Buckla Mike Fenn Sarino Tropeano
Jim Fleishman Brother Joe Grant Scott

The committee has conferenced three times since the last board meeting. The committee continues to focus on the list of items that was set during the April 2018 committee overnight, as well as, how does the committee fit into the future planning for The Mountain.

1. Timbering:

The firm has yet to have the proper frozen or solid ground to begin harvesting the trees. They do expect to be up on the Mountain as soon as the land freezes deep enough. The Mountain did receive the 2nd installment check from the firm for the foresting.

Update: The logging crew has been up a couple of times to drop trees and begin their harvest.

2. Chapel Entrance Update:

Process continues to move forward with Grant Scott preparing concepts based on information from last meeting up at The Mountain.

3. Current/Immediate Needs of B & G:

A. Window and Door Replacements:

All Windows and front door to St. Joe's were replaced this January. Three windows were replaced in St. Clare's. All windows (Not sliding glass doors) are being replaced by the end of January in The Other House. The total cost of the job including labor and material equaled \$21,300.

4. Alternative/Back-up Power for The Mountain:

The committee believes it's imperative that back-up power for The Mountain buildings be a priority of the committee and the board. What this looks like is an ongoing discussion for the committee. An automatic generator back up for the House of Peace and surrounding buildings is one idea. The concept of alternative renewable energy for the entire Mountain has been discussed. The committee re-ignited the conversation of a solar grid/farm to power the majority of the Mountain and what that will take to become reality.

Mike Fenn is reaching out to Jim Fleishman and his son to gain an estimate on what a generator system would cost to back up the majority of structures on the Mountain. Jim was on the January B&G call and gave a rough estimate of \$40,000-\$45,000 to back up the buildings on the Mountain (less The Taylor House). Backing up The House of Peace with a generator would cost roughly \$35,000. We are also gaining contacts for Solar Power companies to come out and walk the land to see the feasibility and cost of a solar farm to lower regular costs, but to also build a back-up supply for emergencies. The renewable option may be close to the cost of a generator system, but would provide ongoing power supply and cost reduction instead of being a back-up for a few hours a year.

Update: We had planned on meeting with a group from Alfred State on March 17th to walk the land and provide ideas and possible cost, but this meeting was cancelled to the COVID-19 concerns. We have not set a new date to meet, but plan on doing so when social distancing is lifted in a safe manner.

Mike Fenn has joined a solar "subscription" which lessens the electric bill for the Mountain due to us giving permission to access some of our energy from the solar company. This is a good demonstration of our focus on using renewable energy whenever possible.

Paul Aroune