



bedford historical society

24 North Amherst Road • Bedford, New Hampshire 03110

Stevens-Buswell Community Center Progress Report—January 2011

Since our annual meeting last September, work on the old school building has moved steadily forward. Manchester Roofing submitted the low bid for the roof work, and they replaced the roof in October. The crew from Milestone Engineering and Construction, the company that we selected to manage the construction project, is finishing the copper flashing and replacing rotten clapboards. The low bid for asbestos removal came from Green Environmental, and they completed this work in October as well. We asked them to save the original flooring in the front rooms and halls on the main floor if possible. It appears that this effort was quite successful, and David Baer, our construction manager, believes that we will be able to reuse most of the old floor.

Before moving forward with the renovation work, we took our plans before the Historic District Commission and the Planning Board. Both groups were favorably impressed by our architect, Eric Palson, and our plans. We received approvals of the sign for the entrance and the basement windows that we had selected.

Another major activity was the purchase of an old trailer that could be used to store some vintage light fixtures, a large blackboard, and other items that we wanted to keep for the renovation of the former school.



In addition, Anne and Robert Cruess of TFMoran made a very generous offer of a large quantity of office furniture that could be used in the renovated building. The Bostwick family and friends spearheaded the major effort to move all this furniture to our trailer, and then they packed it securely to prevent any damage when the trailer was moved to the Town Transfer Station. During November and December, the work has continued in spite of the cold weather. Because of the mold damage and the need to remove partitions that were added over the years, we decided to combine mold remediation and demolition work together. North Ridge was selected from three companies to do this work, which will be completed very soon, and we will be well ahead of schedule. This progress will allow us to move forward with the electrical work much sooner than expected. The basement windows have been ordered, but the ground is frozen so the re-grading will be done in the spring. Stay tuned!

Joan Shaw Reeves