

PROJECT APPLICATION FORM – 2021

Applicant: Fairhaven Historical Commission **Submission Date:** November 13, 2020

Applicant's Address, Phone Number and Email

Fairhaven Historical Commission

40 Center Street

Fairhaven, MA 02719

C/o Wayne Oliveira - Chairman WOliveira@Fairhaven-MA.Gov.

Cell: 774-930-4966

Purpose: (Please select all that apply)

- Open Space
- Community Housing
- Historic Preservation
- Recreation

Town Committee (if applicable): Fairhaven Historical Commission

Project Name: Old Stone Schoolhouse Restoration

Project Location/Address: North Street

Amount Requested: \$ 15,000.00

Project Summary: In the space below, provide a brief summary of the project.

This project would be a full restoration of the schoolhouse building from the roof line down to the foundation. The roof was replaced in 2018.

The wooden gutters require replacement in several areas which have rotted out as well as some of the trim board, soffit and window shutters. Once replaced they would be sanded and painted with appropriate type and color paint. Crushed Stone would be added around the perimeter of the building to aid in water drainage and splash onto the building with is causing erosion. A paver ramp would be added to make the building ADA friendly to allow persons with disabilities access to the building which now has 2 high steps restricting accessability for some people. The fencing in front of the building on the North Street side would be replaced as it is now rotted and falling over in sections. Once all repairs have been made the building would receive a coat of white paint.

Estimated Date for Commencement of Project: July 2021

Estimated Date for Completion of Project: September 2021

From: Kristi Hutchings <cbgcinc@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 05, 2020 8:08 AM
To: Wayne.Oliveira@comcast.net
Subject: Re: Stone School House

Remove and repair approx. 30' of wooden gutters. Prime, paint, oil and flash new sections of wooden gutters.
\$2,275.00

Provide carpentry and repair soffit area under the outside corners.
\$1,400.00

Clean-out existing wooden gutters, seal seams and oil.
\$700.00

Gutter Repair Total: \$4,375.00

Remove and replace approx. 136' of existing gutter and replace with G-60 fiberglass gutters. Remove and replace all downspouts.
\$7,805.00

Repair carpentry on fascia and soffits were damaged.
\$1,600.00

Fiberglass Replacement Total: \$9,405.00

Provide labor and materials to replace white picket fence.
\$4,954.00

Sand, prime and paint fence, gutters, soffits, fascia, and freeze boards.
\$5,400.00

On Thu, Sep 24, 2020 at 1:20 PM <Wayne.Oliveira@comcast.net> wrote:

Hi Kristi,

I met with the owner last week to work up a quote for the Old Stone School House on North St. I hadn't received anything yet. Do you know if it got sent?

If so, could you resend it to me at this address.

Thank you !

HISTORY OF THE OLD STONE SCHOOLHOUSE

WHEN THE TOWN OF FAIRHAVEN was incorporated in 1812, it was divided into 19 school districts, each of which was responsible for building its own schoolhouse and hiring a teacher. The first district to build a school was Oxford Village, where this stone schoolhouse was constructed in 1828 upon land owned by John Taber. It measures 20½ by 36 feet and cost \$520.01 to build.

Children from 4 to 16 attended class at the Oxford Village School for 10¼ months a year, with breaks in the spring and fall during planting and harvesting time. The school day was long, usually from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 or 5:00 p.m., with an hour off for lunch at midday.

The school desks were originally long planks set on empty flour barrels and the seats were boards on crates or wood blocks. A school report from the early 1840s says, "scholars are arranged on the outside of the room. . . on roosts (for such seats deserve no better name) from 20 to 22 inches high—five inches higher than a common chair made for adults. There was no such thing as sitting on the seat and touching the floor with the feet at the same time." The seating was arranged in a horseshoe shape around a smoky wood stove set in the center of the room. Existing photographs from about 1895 show the later use of wide "double form" desks on cast iron legs, each desk having seats for two children side by side. These were arranged facing the front of the room.

Schools of the time were poorly outfitted and badly maintained; the general philosophy was to spend as little as possible on education. The school buildings were either too hot or too cold, depending on the season. On dark, cloudy days only an oil lamp on the teacher's desk provided some additional light. Four of the early district schools in Fairhaven did not even have outhouses, though the Oxford Village school did. Many schools had no maps or globes and few books. The educational situation in Massachusetts was not rectified until 1883 when the district school system was abolished and replaced with townwide school boards.

By the 1890s, the population in North Fairhaven outgrew the Oxford Village schoolhouse. Some students were sent to classes in a room in a local shoe factory while others were transported by horse drawn bus to Rogers School. In 1896, a new Oxford School (1896-2007) was built on Main Street, bringing the classes in the small one-room schoolhouse to an end.

In later years, the schoolhouse was used as a meeting place for various societies and religious organizations, including the Episcopalians who held regular services here beginning in 1906, before the Church of the Good Shepherd was built in 1922. Later the building fell into disrepair. In the late 1960s, the building was carefully restored.

The Old Stone Schoolhouse is property of the Town of Fairhaven, maintained by the Fairhaven Historical Commission.

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