

**Town of Trumbull
CONNECTICUT**



Town Hall
5866 Main Street
Trumbull, Connecticut 06611

**TRUMBULL DEMOLITION REVIEW COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2025, MINUTES**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Brian Fitzgerald
Debra Silber
John Naehar

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Gia Mentillo, Clerk
Cindy Katske, Chief Administrative Officer
Matthew D’Amico, Assistant Superintendent (arrived 3:16p.m.)

RESIDENTS:

Mr. Fitzgerald called the meeting to order at 3:05p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Fitzgerald, Mr. Naehar, and Ms. Silber recently visited 6600 Main Street with Stacey Vairo, Circuit Rider for Preservation Connecticut, who provided insights on the conditions of the structure remaining on the property. Ms. Vairo informed that a project to preserve the structure in question would likely be deemed a “recreation” as the building will need to be dismantled and reconstructed off site, adding that Preservation Connecticut may be able to provide funding for the building’s recreation. Mr. Naehar stated his preference for deeming the project a “restoration” as there is a significant amount of the original schoolhouse present. This distinction will be discussed in more depth at a later time.

Based on site visits, research, and testimonials from people from the time during which the schoolhouse was operational, the Committee deemed that a significant portion of the structure remaining at 6600 Main Street is the original Upper Long Hill School House. The Committee discussed a timeline and associated logistics for moving the structure offsite. Mr. Naehar informed that Christian Heritage has offered to store the structure. Ms. Silber questioned whether all four walls are from the original schoolhouse, and the Committee intends to investigate this further. However, they are confident that at least three walls are original to the building and should be preserved along with the rafters and floor. Mr. Naehar suggested that the roof be disposed of (except for the rafters) and the remaining components be broken down into nine sections for transporting offsite. Mr. Fitzgerald noted that the property owner understands it is in his best interest to utilize the equipment he has onsite to help facilitate and expedite this process as part of a public/private collaboration.

Mr. D’Amico, Assistant Superintendent, informed that the Parks and Recreation Department can provide equipment for transporting the building components and off loading them on a new site, but they do not have the capacity to aid with the dismantling of the structure. Mr. Naehar informed he has secured three professional contractors to supervise and assist with this process,

and they are available on Wednesday, March 12th. Mr. Fitzgerald will provide the property owner with the contractors' license and insurance information, and the Trumbull Historic Society is working to approve funding for the contractors. The contractors and Mr. Naeher will need additional assistance in order to get the structure dismantled and removed within a short timeframe. The property owner has informed Mr. Fitzgerald that he has the necessary strapping and heavy equipment on site to lift the flooring sections of the building which will be quite heavy. Ms. Katske voiced concerns for the limited timeframe, funding for various aspects of the proposed project, and potential liability issues. Per Mr. Fitzgerald's inquiry, Mr. Naeher stated that putting the building back together can happen relatively quickly once the Historic Society decides what they'd like to do with it. He provided a photo of the Upper Long Hill School House to exemplify what he'd like the end product to look like.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no members of the public present, and no public comment was made.

Mr. Fitzgerald made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Naeher seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The public hearing closed at 3:26p.m.

Dated at Trumbull, CT this 5th day of March 2025.

By: Gia Mentillo

