History of the HCA

Five local artists establish the Cultural Arts Alliance (CAA) as a non-profit visual arts center.

CAA partners with Enter Stage Left Theater (ESL) (established as a non-profit in 1986) ESL moves into farmhouse at 98 Hayden Rowe St.

The Hopkinton Community Endowment (HCE) partners with CAA and ESL to help raise funds for the renovation/construction project, with the goal of creating a mortgage-free art center.

Capital Improvements enabled by 2012 CPA and private funds:
- STRUCTURAL: strengthen roof & resheathing, install cupola, replace siding, strengthen post and beam and all wall supports, replace dirt floor with concrete, install stairs to second floor, frame second floor.
- SITE: enlarge roadway drainage system, install drainage structures on site, extend public water and gas lines onto site.

We are “shovel-ready”!
- PLAN: Construction plan approved by the Hopkinton Planning Board.
- PERMIT: Building permit approved by the town.
- PARKING: Cross-Parking Agreement established for use of adjacent school parking lots, in addition to HCA lot.
- UTILITIES: Off-site improvements, drainage system and water, sewer and gas services in place.

The CAA signs a lease with the town of Hopkinton for the property at 98 Hayden Rowe Street (containing a farmhouse, garage, barn, silo, outbuildings) for $1/yr. Only the farmhouse building is habitable.

The CAA engages Gorman Richardson Lewis Architects to create a plan for renovation of the property.

Capital improvements enabled by 2007 Community Preservation Act (CPA) and private funds:
- Stabilize barn and pour new foundation.
- Stabilize and move the grain silo.
- Create outdoor amphitheater seating using granite slabs from barn’s old foundation.

Capital improvements enabled by private contributions and donated labor:
- Stabilize farmhouse foundation.
- Renovate farmhouse kitchen into a gallery space.

The Hopkinton Center for the Arts (HCA) is incorporated as a non-profit. (CAA dissolves, ESL is the resident theater company, HCE heads the Capital Campaign.)

Soon to come:
- 3,000sf performance center containing 200 seat theatre.
- 3 large, 1 medium-sized classrooms.
- 2 sound-proof music studio spaces.
- Lobby/art gallery space.
- Kitchen for use during functions.
- Green room with bathroom.
- Patio adjacent to the theater for outdoor performances.

Town of Hopkinton purchases several hundred acres of land, including a farmhouse, barn and outbuildings built in the 1850s. 2 acres of the property are earmarked for cultural use, and the remainder for schools.

CAA partners with ESP to help raise funds for the renovation/construction project, with the goal of creating a mortgage-free art center.

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