

September 9, 1977

Box 213

Jaffrey Center, N.H. 03454

Mr. Robert Brandin

President

Village Improvement Society

Jaffrey Center, N.H. 03454

Dear Mr. Brandin:

Here is the promised letter on the state of the Meeting House. I am sure that by now, your list of work to be done on the building is longer than mine; nonetheless, I will reiterate my views on the interior of the building, since that is my official concern. The most important thing is the termite problem-- if there is one. Secondly, the canvas on the stage must be replaced this year; it is in miserable condition. The replacement fabric ought to be durable, however, since the constantly moving piano-- having destroyed the original covering-- will wreak havoc upon the new material unless it is sturdy and well fastened to the stage. The main curtain is too ugly to be used, but it is tolerable flanking the stage as it does; it is seldom required; and it would be expensive to replace. Several parts of the ceiling, upstairs and down, need to be scraped and repainted. You may have, Mr. Brandin, the record indicating what brand is on the ceiling now, and what pigment; otherwise the entire ceiling may have to be repainted. It is very difficult to match the shade of white which is on there now; I've tried it (unsuccessfully, as you will notice if you look closely at parts of the balcony). In fact, however, the ceiling may be an ordinary flat white-- differing from the balcony. The floor should be polished and given a soft finish of some kind; Henry Gallup would probably have an opinion

Wayfield

on this matter. There is a leak in the roof over the stage, near one of the chimneys. That should be fixed by spring if possible. Finally-- the least desperate of these problems-- the true owner of the Chickering piano on the main floor ought to be discovered, so that he can remove it; or, if it should happen that it belongs to Monadnock Music-- so that we can all know whose beat-up piano it is.

Those are all the problems that I am aware of. The bell-rope has been replaced in part, and there should be no further trouble with it. The tower clock and bell-ringing mechanism are not working properly, but they are, I think, the town's responsibility.

I have enclosed a carbon copy of the bill from Belletete's for the nylon rope for the bell, and for the four copies of the tower door padlock's key. The keys are also enclosed.

As the last item of business, I present my own bill to the V.I.S. On Aug. 22, there was a V.I.S. - sponsored concert which my brother and I oversaw. Our normal fee for one evening's use of the building is sixteen dollars. (This covers cleaning the building before and after, setting up audio equipment, opening the building, and supervising its use during the evening--eg., ensuring that nobody smokes, that nothing is damaged, that fires are put out promptly, etc.) In addition to that item, we ask to be reimbursed for paying Roland Archambault to haul away Meeting House rubbish with our own. I suppose that costs us five dollars or so.

As I mentioned earlier this week to you, I will probably not be able to do this job next summer. However, my brother Dick, who is a full partner and who has as much experience as I do, will probably be able to continue as caretaker if he is asked.

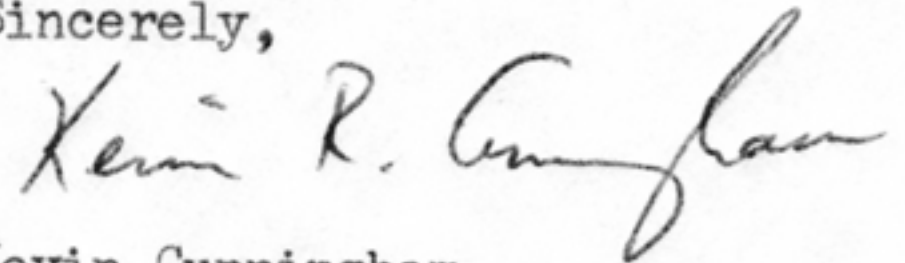
Good luck in your effort to have the town of Jaffrey further subsidize Jaffrey Center by spending some money on our Meeting House. Best

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Seery*

*\$21*

wishes to you and your family for a pleasant autumn.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Kevin R. Cunningham". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Kevin Cunningham

P.S. My address during the year, in case you need to contact me:

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Cambridge, Mass. 02138

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