

Hingham Girl Scout House

President's Report of 2014



Summary

2014 showed very strong community support for preserving the Girl Scout House as part of Hingham's history — and for the current and future Girl Scout organization.

Grants	\$98,049	preservation funds approved at the 2014 Hingham town meeting
Donations	\$10,200	donations from community organizations and residents
Fundraising	\$ 6,500	events sponsored by Girl Scout leaders and families
In-Kind Services	\$ 8,400	donated services received
Hours	700+	volunteer hours by the Board of Directors

Board of Directors

We are excited to have 2 new members join the board, Lisa Florenzano and Danielle Buczynski.

Lisa is a local resident interested in giving back to the community. She was voted in as Secretary, replacing Nini Gomez after 6 years as Secretary. Nini remains as a Director and we thank her for many years of support.

Danielle Buczynski has joined as Director, bringing the valuable insight of current Girl Scout leaders. Danielle is responsible for coordinating usage of the house, is a leader of 2 Girl Scout troops, and has volunteered to organize fundraising and town-wide events.

Stephanie Torski was voted as Treasurer, replacing Geri Duff who completed 6 years as Treasurer and many other positions before that. We thank Geri, who continues on as Director.

Directors James Monroe resigned due to other commitments, leaving the board without general contractor experience and without a person designated as caretaker.

Tax Status

Recognition as a non-profit charitable organization, status 501(c)(c) was received by the IRS in the fall of 2014. This allowed the organization to apply for, and receive, status for non-profit postage from USPS and exemption of MA state tax.

Current Board Members 12/31/2014

Mary Bell
Kathy Shea
Nini Gomez
Cheryl Arbeene
Geri Duff
Kathleen Nugent
Marielle Thorne
Peg Doyle
Stephanie Torski
Lisa Florenzano
Danielle Buczynski

Building Assessment

Phase 1: Immediate needs

Status – completed!

Planned \$35,000

Actual \$21,000 plus \$8,300 in-kind donations

Items needing immediate attention: roof, tree service, furnace, utilities, insurance

Phase 2: House stabilization

Status – in process.

Planned \$98,049

To-date \$4,044

Preserve the architecture and drainage issues threatening the foundation. Site plans are done and reviewed by Hingham’s Conservation Committee; architectural plans have been completed by Strelakovsky Architecture.

Phase 3: ADA compliance

Status: Researching grants

Estimate \$125,000

ADA compliance requires considerable modification to the interior, providing wheelchair access to the building, bathroom and kitchen.

Phase 4: Volunteer Services

Status: Considerable progress and ongoing.

This category includes items that may be done by volunteers or projects for scouts. Refer to list of building improvements for examples.

2014 Capital Improvement Projects completed:

1. New gas furnace; oil furnace and tank removed Supreme Energy
2. New roof; old shingles removed CS Mass. Construction
3. Ceiling repainted Ceilspray
4. Chimney rebuilt above the roof line and cap added August West Fireplace
5. Fireplace pointed, heat shield added, flue adjusted August West Fireplace
6. Front stair rebuilt CS Mass. Construction
7. New campfire seating and tool racks Samantha Finnerty, Kaylee Hill - Silver Award, Del Drew
8. Side yard flood lights Mike G. electric
9. GFI outlets, electric wiring inspected Mike G. electric
10. Bathroom and upper hall painting and hardware Jarred Chipman, Eagle Project
11. Heating grate refinished Whitman Company
12. Basement light fixtures replaced Jim Doyle

2014 Building Maintenance:

1. Cleaning closet added Jim Doyle
2. New containers for wood storage Samantha Finnerty, Kaylee Hill - Silver Award
3. 1930 wood benches stained (in process) Cub Scouts, leader Jose Santerelli
4. Gutter cleaning and repair Mark Coughlin
5. White board installed Girl Scout troop 74825
6. Broken piano removed Cheryl Arbeene
7. Fall yard clean-up Girl Scout troops 69135, 74817, 74829
8. Hingham building permit renewed Hingham Building Commissioner, Fire Chief
9. Fire extinguishers replaced R.E. Lyons

New Girl Scout Badges

Of special note is a collection of new Girl Scout badges created in 2014 by girls in Troop 74806 as part of their Silver Award project. Each badge encourages girls to learn about the history of Hingham Girl Scouts, explore the Girl Scout house and participate in a service project.

Funding

Dues

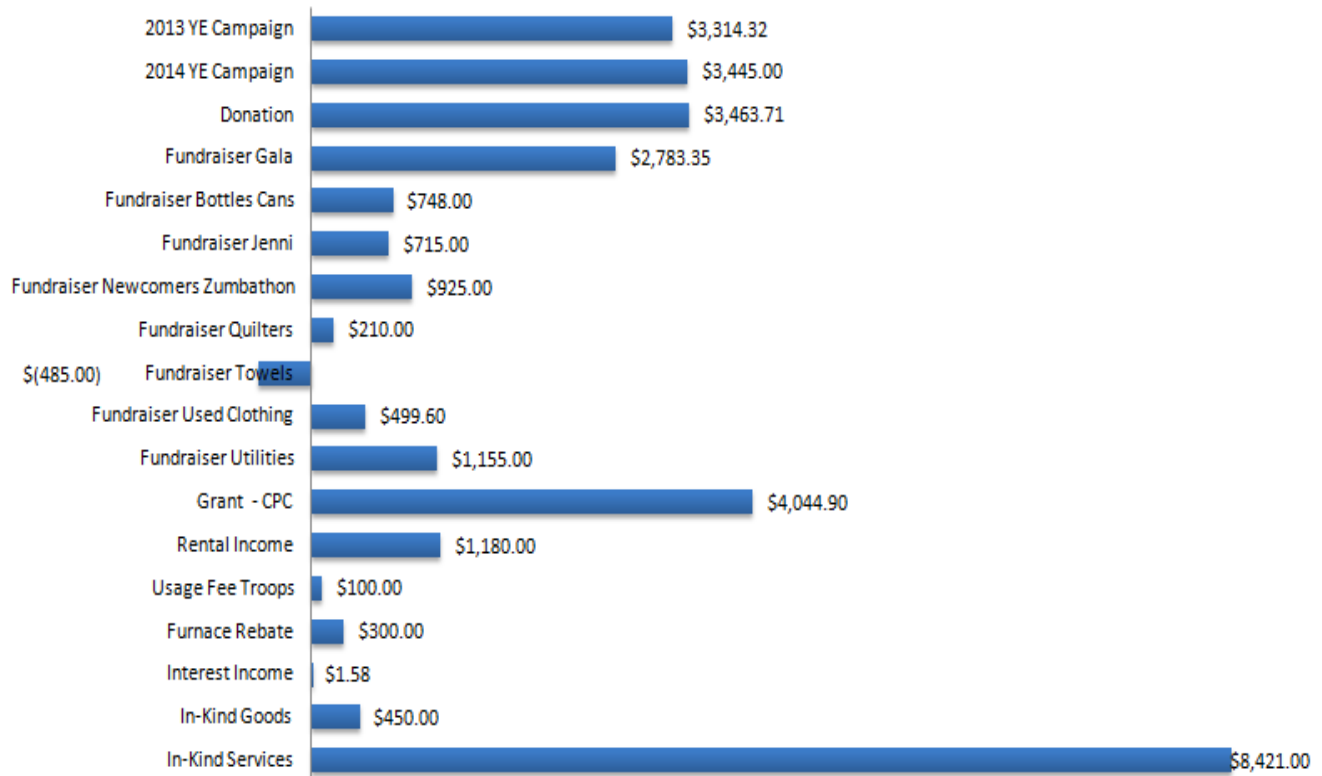
This is the first year we have collected dues from Girl Scout members to help fund the house. Each troop leader has been asked to collect \$20 per girl for the year, with \$15 of that going to the Girl Scout house operations and \$5 toward Service Unit activities. The new fee began in the fall of 2014 thus the chart below shows only \$100 of the anticipated \$3,500 annual revenue for house operations.

Rentals

Also new in 2014 is rental income, with current rates of \$50/\$40/\$30 an hour, \$200/\$150 for half days, and \$100 for a Girl Scout sleepover. Rates provide a 25% discount to Girl Scout families, for recurring reservations and bereavement gatherings.

Fundraising

Much effort was invested by the Board, Girl Scout leaders and families in fundraising events, with collective success. As we move forward, we will identify those that provide enough revenue for annual operating expenses with the least cost in time.



2014 Supporters

Events and Communications

Mary Jo Blackington
Megan Buhr
Danielle Buczynski
Meghan Cusick
Susie Ohoro
Sheila Roche
Joanne Santarelli

Hingham Girl Scout Families

Thanks to the leaders, families and girls of all troops who cared for the building and the property, and for participating in fundraising activities.

House Heroes

PJ Burke
Steve Collins
Jim Doyle
Dell Drew
James Monroe
Michael Ohoro
Tom Parnell
Dan Ranahan

Community Organizations

American Legion
Boy Scouts
Cub Scouts
Garden Club of Hingham
Girl Scouts of Eastern Mass
Guild Consignment Center
Hingham High School Golf Team
Hingham Ladies Club
Hingham Newcomer's Club
South Shore Model Railway Club
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Veterans Services

Monthly Utility Donations

Lewark / Baird Family
Olivia Cataldo and Family
Collins Family
Molly Drew and Family
Kathryn Hall and Family
Peterson Family
Resca Family
Sweeney Family
Troop 74849
Anonymous

Individual Donations

Beth Anderson
Tina & David Anthony
Leon & Cheryl Arbeene
Cara Arnold
Stewart Lewark & Allison Baird
Penny Baltera
Jane Hartwell & Marjorie Barry
Matthew & Mary Bell
Susan Berry
Darren Baker & Patricia Cairns
F. Penelope Cappella
Melanie & Michael Cataldo
Vickie Chipman
Ed & Laurice David
Jim & Peg Doyle
Sarah D'Souza
Joseph & Rosemarie Durkin
Mary Eggert
Gail Faring
Sheila Finnerty
Wendy Finnerty
Tom & Diane Foley
Susan Giacchetti
Nini Gomez
Mary Griffin
Bonnie Handrahan
Paul & Esther Healey
Lisa Hennessey
Barbara Hood
Diane & Michael Jordan
Marjorie Jordan
Helga Jorgensen
Stephanie Smute Kelsch
David Kircheis
Irma & Tally Lauder
Stephen Leary
Elizabeth Maldonado
Robert Mandel
Joan McGinn
Janice McPhillips
Carol Moss
Eileen & Rory Neubert
Amy Obrien
William Olin
Jennifer Oliver
Elizabeth Orcutt
Tracy Pace
Lisa & Scott Peterson
June Pratt
Christine Roberts
Sheila Roche
Mark & Elizabeth Rockoff
Paula Ruozi
Marc & Lauren Sacco
Avis & Thomas Studley
Amy Sweeney
Greg & Stephanie Torski
Beverly Toto
Thomas & Rosario Trogele
Troop 78190
Mark & Jeri Tyrrell
Patricia & Duane Wanty
Barbara White

Corporate Charities

Adobe
Biogen
Fidelity Investments

Supporting Businesses

August West Chimney & Fireplace
Beacon Sales - roofing materials
Cavanaro Consulting - land survey
CeilSpray - acoustic ceiling refinish
CertainTeed
CS Mass Construction - gen. contracting
Falcon Painting
FAST Mailing - direct mail print and post
Kohls
Hammond Real Estate
Hingham Lumber
Mike G Electric
Specialized Riggings Tree Services
Strekalovsky Architecture
Whitman Company - metal refinishing

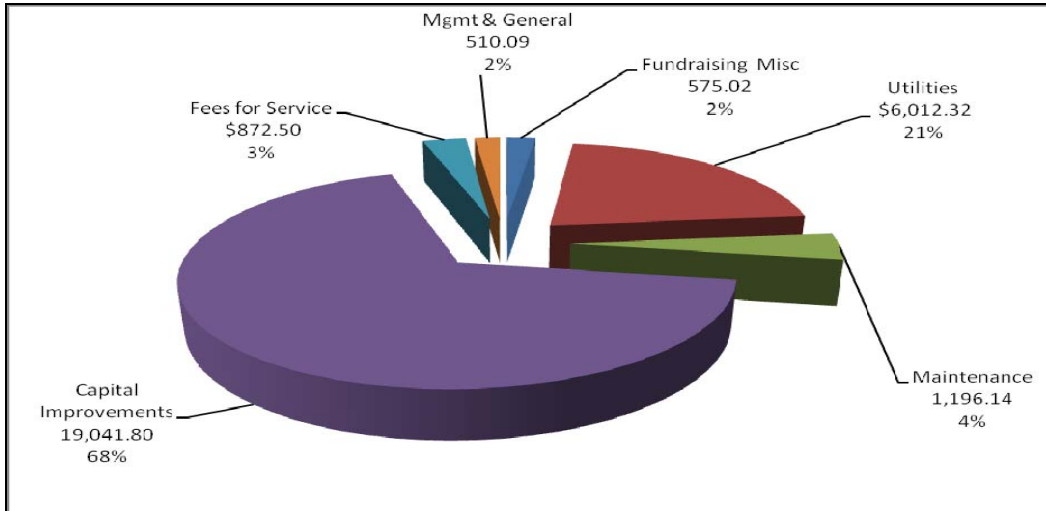
Auction Donations

Businesses and Clubs:
Baker Testing Services
Boston Harbor Cruises
Esthetic Services of Norwell
Fox 25 News
Gigi's Crafty Place
Girl Scouts of Eastern Mass
Hingham Garden Club
Hingham High School Golf Team
Levaggi's Candies
Sarra Studios
South Shore Country Club
Thirty-One®

Individuals:
Cheryl Arbeene
Mary Bell
Meghan Cusick
Rosalie Cusick
Dana Donnelly
Geri Duff
Marla Glenn
Ruth Johnson
Marilou Longo
John Neidecker
Linda Resca
Sheila Roche
Kathy and Charles Shea
Troop 74829
Troop 74849

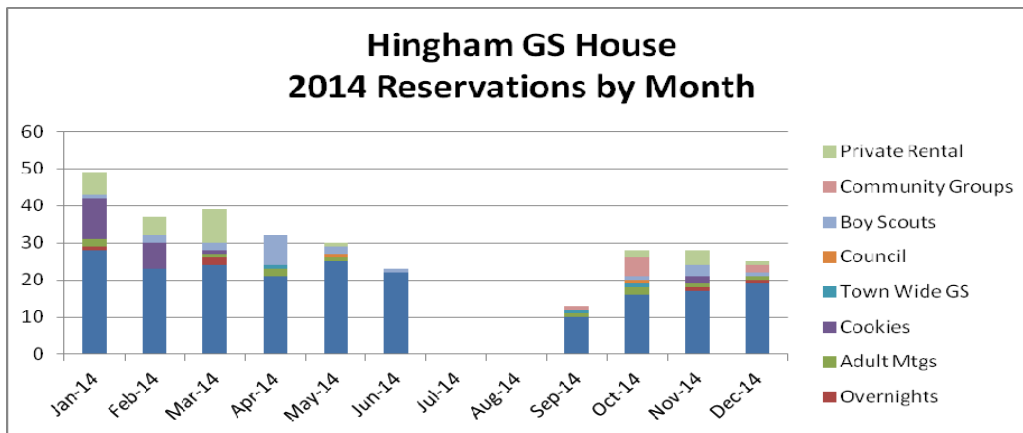
Expense Summary

2014 was the first full year of operating without the funds of Girl Scouts of Eastern Mass. Our operating expenses (utilities, insurance, fees, and maintenance) ran about \$9,000. An additional \$19,041 was invested in capital improvements.



2014 Usage Report

In 2014, overall usage held steady with 304 reservations compared to 308 in 2013. The building still has capacity for use during school hours, some weekends and throughout the summer.



2015 Outlook

Completion of the following items in 2015 will put the Girl Scout house in a very good place physically and financially with sound procedures for day-to-day operations.

1

Complete CPC Preservation

We look forward to finishing the projects funded by the CPC grant this year, stabilizing the building foundation and repairing or replacing the siding, windows and doors.

2

Fund Annual Operating Expenses

The goal is to identify revenue streams that can fund the \$9,000+ annual operating expenses on an ongoing basis. The current plan is to generate revenue through 4 avenues:

\$3,500 Annual service unit dues
\$2,500 Rentals to private parties,
Girl Scout overnights
\$3,000 Fundraising and donations

Volunteers continue to be a big part of the picture, helping with promotion, coordinating rentals and organizing fundraising events.

3

Establish Accountability

Having lost the caretaker from Girl Scouts of Eastern Mass, we have relied on volunteers to clean the house, care for the yard, and perform general maintenance. In 2015 we will establish procedures to ensure responsibility, either in the form of hired part-time contractors or accountable volunteer positions.

Speaking on behalf of the Board of Directors, we look forward toward another year of preserving Hingham's history and community values.

Peg Doyle
President
Hingham Girl Scout House

Submitted January 31, 2015