

Mid-Year Report

Grantee: Woolman Hill

People present: Margaret Cooley, Nikki, Tyler, Susan

Date: 10.8.21

Project:

What problem was being addressed? Need for accessibility at Woolman Hill to accommodate people with mobility limitations.

What actions have been implemented? Renovation included adding accessible 3 bedrooms, 1.5 bath, gathering space and direct access to main house and front door.

What went right? Able to reopen Sept 1, have held events including Hartford Meeting for first time in several years.

What went wrong? Covid makes it hard to plan in-person gatherings. Architectural Access Board added kitchen upgrades that were unexpected.

What surprises did you encounter/what was serendipitous? A generous donor gave funds for programming and a welcome fund so have more flexibility on charges.

The length of the pandemic and focus on access and inclusion have led to a reconsideration of in-person/hybrid/virtual programming among board and staff. Board meeting next week to look at business model. There are several barriers to online programming including poor rural internet access (est \$30K to fix), no staffing or equipment.

Margaret has engaged in conversations with Beacon Hill, Powell House, Ben Lomand Center about programming and collaboration.

How are you measuring effectiveness? Attendance, surveys of participants.

What changes will you make in the remainder of the year? Final payment for project due soon, then will send final report.

Notes: There are photos on the Woolman Hill website.

