

MADBURY FIRE DEPARTMENT

13 Town Hall Road
Madbury, New Hampshire 03820-9509

Official Business

March 4, 2019

Beth Carroll
Powder Major's Barn
6 Cherry Lane
Madbury, NH 03823

RE: Facility Inspection and approval

Beth,

I have reviewed your letter dated February 18, 2019.

Thank you for verifying that Emergency Lighting is provided outside of all Emergency Exits.

Thank you also for reviewing my Exit concerns for the smaller room with your Fire Protection Engineer, and I approve of your plan to add the additional Emergency Exit door.

In regards to the Function Hall/Dance Hall interpretation, I am not comfortable changing my interpretation. Since the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), and the State of New Hampshire fail to define what a Dance Hall is, I must defer to definitions provided by Webster's Dictionary, which states "a large room set aside or suitable for dancing, especially a public hall offering facilities for dancing". Although you have removed the Dance Floor reference from your website's question and answer page, the fact remains that it was there, and demonstrates the intent. Please accept that this being a place of assembly, I must lean on the side of public safety, and require that the building protected by an Automatic Sprinkler System. I therefore refer you to the State Fire Marshal's Office for their interpretation, as the State Fire Marshal has the ultimate responsibility for Public Safety within the State of New Hampshire. He also has the authority to grant variances to the State Fire Code (NFPA 1) and the National Life Safety Code (NFPA 101), which I do not.

Since you have provided plans to add the Emergency Exit that is required for the small room, with a time frame, and I expect that you will be taking this to the State Fire Marshal's Office for review and interpretation, I am requesting that the Building Inspector and the Madbury Planning Board extend your Conditional Use Permit for One Hundred and Twenty (120) Days. I will issue you a Temporary Assembly Permit for that same period. I would recommend that we review your progress in 60 days to see if this needs to be adjusted again.

Respectfully,



Tom Perley, Fire Chief

cc: File

Justin Corrow, Building Inspector
Planning Board, Town of Madbury
Board of Selectmen, Town of Madbury