TO: Board of Selectmen, Town of Carroll, NH

FROM: Twin Mountain Bretton Woods Historical Society

We are writing to request consideration from the Board to allow the TMBWHS to occupy the old fire station after it becomes vacant due to the opening of the new Safety Complex.

The TMBWHS has accumulated many historical items that tell the story of our wonderful community. Unfortunately, we don’t have adequate space to not only store the amount of materials in possession but also to share these items with our residents and visitors to the area. Items are presently stored in member’s homes, in a steel storage container on town property near the highway department building, a small amount has been moved to the new town hall and more recently obtained items are stored in a small garage owned by a member of the Board.

The old fire station would provide more than adequate space for all the possessions to be stored safely and displayed. We would plan to create a museum/learning center for visitors to view these historic items. We would rotate the items on display periodically to provide new and different things to view. The old fire station itself could be considered an historical structure.

The town would have to maintain ownership of the building, the TMBWHS would only occupy the space. The town would have to provide the utilities but we plan to only heat the small office and conference room area. We feel we can handle any and all minor repairs that may come up not requiring licensed technicians but major repairs would still be handled by the town.

The TMBWHS has no means of income but we are planning on reestablishing the annual Christmas Craft Fair and Tractor Show that were very popular in the past. We would also look into having video and oral presentations by local historians where we could charge admission as other Historical Societies in our area do. We hope to have a small gift shop to sell ornaments of historical buildings in our area and we are working to create framed note boards from some of the blackboards from the old school. We plan to have shirts and hats with town and anniversary logos and a picture history book ready for 2022. We are also looking to have a new ornament of the old town hall and gymnasium ready for 2022 also. These efforts, if successful, will not provide enough funds for us to fully maintain this building going forward but hopefully could offset the costs to the town thru various fundraising efforts.

 We have been hearing talk about the town “needing revitalization, a shot in the arm, it is a dying town.” We have the opportunity here to create something that just may help continue that revitalization that the construction of the new town hall and safety complex started. Although we greatly appreciate the space provided us in the new building we feel with all the materials we have in storage and the certainty that we will be collecting more items over the years we will not have the room to safely store and make items available for display to the public.

Lastly, we are not a business. We are just volunteer residents that are maintaining and presenting the history of the town. We are looking for a home to showcase this and the surrounding area.