



Middlesex Canal Association

P.O. Box 333 ☆ Billerica, Massachusetts 01821

Dear Fellow Canal Enthusiasts,

November 29, 2019

On October 15, 2019, Mark LaLumiere, the Building Commissioner for the Town of Billerica, issued the Middlesex Canal Association a Building Permit which allows us to begin the adaptive reuse of 2 Old Elm, and convert it into our new museum. These last two years have been a very challenging time as we worked our way through the long permitting process: while at the same time we staffed our current museum, led our Spring and Fall walks for record crowds, published extra full issues of *Towpath Topics*, maintained our excellent Web Site, educated hundreds of school children, and held our well attended lecture series. We have been busy and need your continued support for our Annual Appeal. We welcome you to join us as we enter this exciting adventure – building a new museum.

We are fortunate to have a sympathetic contractor, William (Bill) Cogley, who encouraged us along the way and now heads our whole effort. Bill is assisted by Patricia (Pat) Perrino, who will serve as the Project Manager. The official starting date was November 8, 2019. The Plan is to start at the river side – east side – and progress towards the street. The building measures 40ft by 60ft long: we will complete one third (20ft) at a time as long as the weather allows us to proceed. Any work not completed will start again in the Spring.

The current cost projection to allow us to move in is \$1.5 million dollars. We need to raise the last \$500,000. To do so we need both your financial assistance and your suggestions for available Grants, Trusts, Appreciated Stock Transfer, Generous Individuals, Businesses etc. The current Building Committee will lead the effort to seek new money but we need your participation in coming up with possible donors for our new museum. We are depending on your assistance. Together - we can do this.

Sincerely,

J. Jeremiah Breen
president