

SPSA Launches \$7,500 Legal Expense Fund

Since its founding in 1908, SPSA's sole mission has been the preservation and maintenance of Ayer's historic Sandy Pond Schoolhouse. Some 113 years later, that mission is unchanged. Today, however, we are launching a fund drive to cover unexpected legal expenses arising from a recently discovered issue with our title to the schoolhouse.

This problem goes back to 1956 when the trustees of SPSA decided to incorporate. This was accomplished in 1956, when the original Sandy Pond School Association was replaced by Sandy Pond School Association, Inc.

Unfortunately, what the trustees neglected to do in 1956 was transfer legal ownership of the schoolhouse from the original 1908 association to Sandy Pond School Association, Inc. In some ways this is a small problem. For one thing, it in no way compromises SPSA's ability to maintain the property. Unfortunately, however, it jeopardizes our eligibility for the grant money on which we are depending to restore the schoolhouse. As a result, further work will now be delayed, possibly until sometime in 2023.

The solution involves filing an "adverse possession claim" with Land Court. This effort is now underway. It remains only to raise the money needed to cover legal expenses, currently estimated at \$7,500. With your help, dear reader, we can do this. Please consider donating to this worthy cause.