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Organization:

Title:

Comments: HI. I watched the presentation last night. I was disappointed in the content and discussion points as there was nothing about the cost of fixing, or any methods of raising funds to do so. Clearly you all have made your minds up about the faith of this unique, one of a kind shelter along the AT. I was hoping to be able to ask some questions but the site I was watching it on would not allow me to as it said "closed for commenting" I hiked the entire AT in 2016 and had a amazing experience for one night at the barn. After listening last night I do now realize that not every night would be like that for everyone. I can see how large party groups who trash the place are and have been a problem through the years have become a headache for the maintainers. What would be an amazing idea is to do what they do on the Vermont Long Trail, or in the White Mountains in New Hampshire. Imagine rebuilding the Barn into an amazing beautiful structure with nicer indoor accomodations and staffing it with a caretaker during hiking season. Then in the off season keep it locked up. I stayed at several of these type of shelters on the Long Trail in 2019 and they were amazing. There was a minimal \$5.00 fee for spending the night and it keeps all the big parties and rif raf away. It also keeps the site in tip top shape. I know it seems like you all have made your minds up but it would of been nice for someone down there to at least think a little bit outside the box. As much as you all do not think so. This barn is special. It is unique. It is barn RED. It is huge. It is a one of a kind place along a 2200 mile stretch of trail. That is what you are getting rid of. It will be a sad day for the community, but I am so grateful I had it for that one magical night in late April 2016. In closing my comments here I would like to ask if you do tear this barn down would you consider selling small red siding panels to past hikers who have had stays there. I for one would love to have a piece of the barn and would definitely pay for it. This could also help off set the cost of tearing it down. Just another outside the box thinking that may help.

Thanks and all the best to you, Dexter Ross

This is a link to my trail journals from my night at the barn just so you know I am not full of BS

<https://www.trailjournals.com/journal/entry/530777>