

THE READINGTON MUSEUMS
MUSEUM COMMITTEE
MEETING
February 2, 2009

Chairman Jim Horvath called the meeting to order at 8:12p.m. He announced that all laws governing the Open Public Meetings Act had been met and that the meeting had been duly advertised.

PRESENT: Jim Horvath, Erin Brennan, Betty Ann Fort, Joyce Lykes, , and Museum Administrator Amy Hollander.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Betty Ann Fort moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on January 5, 2009. Joyce Lykes seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: The Committee discussed the Administrator's agenda items.

Ebersole Hall House ("EHH") Roof: The Administrator informed the Committee that A+ Roofing, whose bid to replace the EHH roof had been accepted, was going out of business and had returned the Museums' deposit check. The Committee then discussed possible methods of action, including whether the project would require another bid process. Jim Horvath suggested that the Administrator speak with the Township Administrator to determine what the requirements are and whether new bids would have to be submitted.

Girl Scout Garden Projects:

EHH April Event: The Administrator presented to the Committee the proposal of the Scout Troop who had maintained the EHH garden to hold an event for other scout troops at EHH on Sunday, April 19th. The Scout Troop is hosting the program in furtherance of their leadership badge and the folk life badge for the other troops. Activities would include a house tour, garden tour, historic craft and historic games. They also requested that a Museum representative be present during the program.

EHH May Event: The Scout Troop also proposed a joint spring planting session with the troop that will be taking over the garden maintenance on May 16th and submitted a design and cost proposal therefor.

The Committee discussed both proposals and agreed that they would be a positive experience for the scouts as well as provide a benefit to the Museum. Betty Ann therefore moved that the Scout Troop's request to hold their events at the Museum in April and May and that an amount up to \$150 be authorized for the 2009 EHH garden. Joyce seconded the motion and it was therefore unanimously

RESOLVED, that the request by the Scout Troop who maintained the Eversole Hall House Garden in 2008 (the "Scout Troop") to hold an open house at the Eversole Hall House on April 19, 2009 is hereby authorized, approved and ratified; and it was

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the request by the Scout Troop to hold a joint planting on May 16, 2009 with the troop that will be taking over the maintenance at the Eversole Hall House Garden during 2009 is hereby authorized, approved and ratified; and it was

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Scout Troop's plan and expense proposal for the 2009 maintenance of the Eversole Hall House Garden (the "Proposal") submitted to the Museum Administrator and the Museum Committee is hereby authorized, approved and ratified; and it was

FURTHER RESOLVED that an amount not exceeding \$150 is hereby authorized for expenses relating to the Proposal.

EHH Maintenance: Betty Ann suggested that the March Saturday Museum Committee meeting be used to clean and paint the EHH.

Readington Township Volunteer Event: The Administrator noted that the Township was holding a volunteer event on February 24th. Jim, Betty Ann and Erin Brennan will represent the Museum Committee.

School Programs:

First Grade: The Administrator requested that the Committee members each bake two batches of gingersnaps for the first grade program to be held February 17-19, 24-26 and March 3-5 and 11-15.

Third Grade: The Administrator gave a status report on the new third grade program to be inaugurated in May 2009. She is currently preparing teacher packets. She requested that a dress rehearsal be held to get an idea of timing and logistics. She also stated that although Kim Costa is committed to be one of the interpreters, two additional volunteers are still required. The Administrator will meet with the Township Administrator to discuss the municipal aspect of the program and the involvement of the Township Committee members.

Foodways Event: Kim Costa submitted a request on behalf of an historical foodways group to rent the barn at the Bouman Stickney Farmstead ("BSF") on September 19, 2009. Peter Rose, an authority on Dutch Cooking in the 17th and 18th centuries. She also invited the Museum Committee to attend the lecture for free if the barn rental could be reduced to \$100 (from the \$150 non-profit rate). The Committee was enthusiastic about the idea. Betty Ann moved that the barn be rented to the foodways group on for \$100; *provided, however* that members of the Museum Committee and some invited guests be permitted to attend the event. Joyce seconded the motion and it was therefore

RESOLVED, that the request submitted by Kim Costa to rent the barn on September 19, 2009 for a meeting of an historical foodways group and lecture by Peter Rose, at a rental fee of \$100 be authorized, approved and ratified.

EHH Community Programs: Betty Ann will speak to Julia Allen regarding her suggestion last year to hold a farmers' market at EHH.

Summer Lecture Series: The Administrator noted that Charles Scammel agreed to speak on "Stanton Stories" for the June lecture.

Historic Trust Grant: The Committee discussed whether or not the grant specifications required a permanent sign at EHH. She will clarify the matter with the NJ Historic Trust and will try to complete the final report by February 15.

OLD BUSINESS:

Readington Book Donation to the School District: The Administrator noted that Mary Jean DiRoberto required a copy of the book for the donation to be approved.

BSF Windows: Jim spoke with Chuck Waters about repairing the squirrel-damaged windows with a two part epoxy. He showed the Committee a piece of scrap wood that had been repaired using the

epoxy. The Committee agreed that the product performed admirably. Chuck would like to remove the windows to perform the repairs. The Committee agreed but stipulated that it be done after the completion of the first grade program.

Office Furniture: The Administrator had submitted to the Committee a request to purchase the following office furniture to be used as storage: (i) Four (4) two drawer lateral files (30 x 18") at \$75.00 each; (ii) two (2) stackable flat files (49 x 30 x 15") at \$100.00 each; and (iii) one (1) storage cabinet (36 x 18") at \$75.00, amounting to a total of \$575.00. Betty Ann moved that the furniture be purchased and Joyce seconded the motion. It was therefore

RESOLVED, that office furniture consisting of: i) Four (4) two drawer lateral files (30 x 18") at \$75.00 each; (ii) two (2) stackable flat files (49 x 30 x 15") at \$100.00 each; and (iii) one (1) storage cabinet (36 x 18") at \$75.00 (collectively, the "Furniture") be purchased for the Museum Administrator's office; and it was

FURTHER RESOLVED, that an amount not exceeding \$575.00 be authorized to purchase the Furniture.

NEW BUSINESS:

Readington Book Photo Archive: Erin presented a proposal from Fedex/Kinko's for copying the release forms from the Readington Book project. Fedex quoted approximately \$400 to copy and hole punch all five binders (approximately 2300 pages) if the documents contained staples, paper clips, etc. The price would be reduced by half if the documents were clean. Erin offered to remove the staples and number the documents to achieve the lower price. Joyce therefore moved that an amount up to \$300 be authorized for copying the release forms. Betty Ann seconded the motion and it was therefore

RESOLVED, that an amount not exceeding \$300 be authorized for copying the release forms collected during the Readington Book Project.

February 21st Meeting: The Administrator requested that the large desk in the collections room be moved into the office during that meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: Betty Ann moved that the meeting be adjourned. Joyce seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned 9:17 p.m.



Respectfully submitted
Erin Brennan, Secretary of the Museum Committee