

THE READINGTON MUSEUMS
MUSEUM COMMITTEE
MEETING
October 5, 2009

Chairman Jim Horvath called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.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, Joyce Lykes, Betty Ann Fort, Nancy O'Malley, and Erin Brennan.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Betty Ann Fort moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on September 8, 2009, as amended. Joyce Lykes seconded the motion and the motion was passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

Exhibit. Jim Horvath requested that the minutes reflect that the title of the exhibit has been changed from "*Made in Hunterdon*" to "*The Things They Made*".

The Committee discussed coverage for the exhibit. Nancy O'Malley and Betty Ann will work October 10; Joyce and Erin Brennan will work October 11; Jim will work October 12; and the Museum Administrator will cover the exhibit October 6-8 and 13-15.

Jim pointed out the thorough and favorable *Star Ledger* article on the exhibit. The Committee discussed the October 2nd reception and noted that the exhibit has been receiving positive feedback.

Nancy asked about the 6th grade extra credit project. This year the project consists of either (a) a list of questions; (b) a PowerPoint presentation; or (c) a brochure. Betty Ann asked Sue Reardon to provide the Museum with any brochures she considers exceptionally good.

Jim noted that the flint napper who gave a demonstration on October 4th recommended that the Museums' collection of stone points be analyzed. Betty Ann suggested presenting a lecture on stone points and other artifacts found in the area.

Guest House: Jim, Mayor Julia Allen and Committeewoman Beatrice Muir walked through the Guest House on October 2. Mayor Allen recommended that we continue the renovations on a project by project basis as obtaining several smaller project-oriented amounts would be easier to obtain than one lump sum for the entire renovation project. Committeewoman Muir suggested looking into installing solar panels. Jim and Betty Ann will contact several HVAC contractors and electricians.

Financial: Nancy reported that the Museum budget currently has a balance of \$8,958.22; the 2003 construction bond has a balance of \$14,12.88; and the 2006 construction bond has a balance of \$90,298.75.

SNAP: No report.

New Committee Member: Jim sent a letter to the Township Committee through the Township Administrator about naming Helen Farrant to the Committee. It is on tonight's Township Committee Meeting agenda.

ADA Report and Plan: Jim will speak to the Township Administrator this week.

NEW BUSINESS:

Cold Brook School: The fourth grade Cold Brook School program will run from October 6 through October 30. The Committee discussed whether Kim Costa could handle a number of sessions so that the Museum Administrator could catch up and cover the exhibit. Betty Ann therefore moved that the Museums hire Kim Costa to handle three sessions of the Cold Brook School program with the idea that the Museum Administrator will catch up on her work at the Bouman Stickney Farmstead ("BSF"). Nancy seconded the motion and it was therefore unanimously

RESOLVED, that the Museums hire Kim Costa for three (3) sessions of the Cold Brook School Programs at a rate not to exceed \$100 per session.

Other Programs: The Committee discussed the amount of time required for the non-school programs and considered cuts that could be made.

Barn Dance: The dance will be held October 17. Joyce asked that the Administrator provide flyers to distribute. Erin will get cider and water; Betty Ann will get cookies. Jim will ask the Administrator to have a check cut for the caller.

BSF Sign: The Committee discussed the need for a new sign on Dreahook Road as the current sign was badly damaged by a falling tree. Betty Ann suggested a two-sided sign that would be visible from both directions. Betty Ann will follow up with Scott Hulcher of the Roads Department with respect to the removal of another tree which fell across the brook

ADJOURNMENT: Betty Ann moved that the meeting be adjourned. Joyce seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

Erin Brennan

Respectfully submitted
Erin Brennan, Secretary