

THE READINGTON MUSEUMS
MUSEUM COMMITTEE
MEETING
March 1, 2010

Chairman Jim Horvath called the meeting to order at 7:40 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, Betty Ann Fort, Helen Farrant, Joyce Lykes, Nancy O'Malley, Erin Brennan and Museum Administrator Amy Hollander. A quorum of Committee members was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

February 20, 2010 (open session)

Jim Horvath requested a motion to approve the minutes for the open session of the meeting. The motion was made by Betty Ann Fort and seconded by Joyce Lykes. The motion was unanimously passed with Nancy O'Malley abstaining.

February 20, 2010 (executive session)

Joyce moved to approve the minutes from the executive session of the meeting held on February 20, 2010. Helen Farrant seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed, with Nancy abstaining.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Open Houses: Crafters had been booked for the open houses for the remainder of 2010.

Barn Dances: Betsy Gotta has been booked for the barn dances in May and October.

Lecture Series: Lecturers have been booked for the 2010 series.

Exhibit: Meg Slutter from the Township Administrator's office will prepare an exhibit of her antique quilt collection in exchange for renting the barn on April 24 for her daughter's shower.

Grants: Betty Ann requested a list of the Museums' grants. The Administrator noted that the final report had been submitted for the Historic Commission grant and that she had not yet had any feedback from the final report submitted for the Eversole Hall House grant.

OLD BUSINESS:

Volunteer Night: The Committee discussed attendance at the Township's Volunteer Night on March 2.

First Grade Program: Betty Ann noted that the program was going well.

Third Grade Program: Betty Ann suggested talking with Mary Jean DiRoberto and a third grade teacher to determine: (i) what is compelling about the program; (ii) what information should the children take away from the municipal building portion of the program, in particular in the courtroom. She suggested that a tour of the police station be substituted for the tour of the building. She also noted that a chaperone must be present during the segment with the soldier's wife to ensure discipline.

NEW BUSINESS:

Budget: The Committee reviewed non-recurring items from the 2009 budget. They noted that 2010 costs for program consultants will be higher due to the Administrator's resignation. The Committee agreed that they would not exceed the 2009 budget. Further discussion was tabled pending input from the Township's Finance Manager.

Nancy asked if the Museums had received its school funding. The Administrator noted that the funds go directly to the Township to be allocated to the Administrator's salary.

Resignation of Museum Administrator: Jim noted that the members of the Committee had received copies of the Administrator's letter of resignation to accept the position of Executive Director of the Red Mill Museum in Clinton. He then requested a motion to accept the resignation. Erin Brennan made the motion; it was seconded by Betty Ann and it was unanimously resolved that:

WHEREAS, Amy Hollander has held the position of Museum Administrator for the past eight (8) years; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure Ms Hollander has greatly expanded the role of the Museums in Readington Township and the surrounding area, as well as in the Readington Township School District; and

WHEREAS, Ms Hollander has tendered her resignation from the Readington Museums to pursue other opportunities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Museum Committee hereby accepts the resignation of Amy Hollander effective March 11, 2010; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Museum Committee desires to recognize the efforts Ms Hollander has given to the Museums during her tenure as Museum Administrator; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Museum Committee wishes Ms Hollander well as she pursues further opportunities.

Transition: Jim will handle the mail and voicemail; Erin will monitor and respond to e-mails; Nancy will process invoices and purchase orders; and Betty Ann will handle work orders.

Newsletter: The Committee requested the Administrator to write a letter of farewell to Readington Township for the spring newsletter.

Camp: The Committee agreed to suspend Museum Camp for 2010.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Jim Horvath asked for a motion to adjourn to executive session to discuss personnel matters. Erin Brennan made the motion. Betty Ann Fort seconded the motion and the following resolution was unanimously passed:

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., the Open Public Meetings Act, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Museum Committee is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist and desires to authorize the exclusion of the public from the portion of the meeting in accordance with the act;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the specified subject matter as set forth below:

Subject Matter	Basis Of Public Exclusion	Date Anticipated When Disclosed to Public
Museum Administrator	Personnel Matters	June 30, 2010

The Committee adjourned to Executive Session at 8:50 p.m.

Betty Ann moved that the Committee return to Open Session. Helen seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed. The Committee returned to Open Session at 9:10 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Nancy moved that the meeting be adjourned. Betty Ann seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.



Respectfully submitted
Erin Brennan, Secretary