

THE READINGTON MUSEUMS
MUSEUM COMMITTEE
MEETING
September 7, 2010

Chairman Jim Horvath called the meeting to order at 7:37 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, Nancy O'Malley, Erin Brennan, Joyce Lykes, Program Director Kim Costa and proposed administrative assistant Barbara Alfano. A quorum of Committee members was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Joyce Lykes moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on August 2, 2010. Erin Brennan seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed with Helen Farrant and Betty Ann Fort abstaining.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

The Program Director presented her report for August. Items discussed were (i) potential volunteers of a high school senior and a retired teacher; (ii) grant reports; and (iii) the donation of a Stanton School graduation commemorative booklet. Nancy O'Malley was asked if the funds from the Hall House grant retained by the state were ever returned. She will speak with the Township Finance Manager.

OLD BUSINESS:

SNAP/Past Perfect: The Committee discussed Doug Milne's lack of progress on the field mapping. Jim will speak with Doug and give him a firm deadline of the end of September. If the deadline is not met, the Museums will proceed without his services. The Program Director will speak with the Township Finance Manager regarding the purchase of Past Perfect.

Lecture Series: The Committee discussed the final lecture for 2010. Thirty-four people attended and \$145 was received for the Museum Trust. The Program Director presented the lectures for 2011. They will consist of New Jersey Diners and Boardwalks. The Program Director asked the Committee for ideas on a third lecture as the speaker for the proposed lecture on kitchens was too expensive. Erin suggested post offices and will provide the Program Director with a contact.

The Program Director suggested that the Museums register with the Horizon Speakers Bureau. A \$75 annual subscription provides four speakers for the year. The Committee requested that the Program Director sign the Museums up.

Quilt Exhibit: The Program Director advised that the exhibit will consist of approximately 30 quilts. She also presented an antique quilt top from the Museums' collection that had been damaged in a fire. She asked the Committee if the top could be deaccessioned so that it could be used as a hands-on project entitled "Bring this Quilt Back to Life", where visitors could try their hand at quilting. Betty Ann moved that Artifact No. 94.14 be deaccessioned in order for it to be used as a demonstration piece. Helen seconded the motion and it was unanimously

RESOLVED, that Museum Artifact No. 94.14, an antique quilt top, be deaccessioned from the Museums' collection to be used as a demonstration piece for the Museums' 2010 Exhibit.

Administrative Assistant: Jim presented Barbara Alfano to the Committee. She will commence once she has been approved by the Township Committee on September 7.

NEW BUSINESS:

School Programs:

Cold Brook School: The Cold Brook School fourth grade program will be held on nine days in mid-October. The Program Director discussed program changes to conform with the changes to the fourth grade curriculum. As the curriculum includes a greater emphasis on New Jersey history, a period New Jersey map will be needed. The Program Director presented an 1812 New Jersey map for the Committee's approval. Betty Ann moved that the Program Director be authorized to purchase a forty inch reproduction of an 1812 New Jersey map at a cost of \$129.95 plus \$8.10 shipping. Helen seconded the motion and it was unanimously

RESOLVED, that the Program Director be, and she hereby is, authorized to purchase a forty inch reproduction of an 1812 New Jersey map at a cost of \$129.95 plus \$8.10 shipping, a facsimile of which was presented to the Committee.

Betty Ann suggested that the Program Director request class lists, sizes, and possible allergies of the fourth graders. In addition, Betty Ann and Helen will make new boys' shirts in the eighteenth century style.

First Grade Program: Eleven classes will be held during February and March 2011.

Pond at Bouman-Stickney: The Program Director advised that the pond had been drained and that it contains a mount of silt. The Committee agreed that she should ask Buildings and Grounds to dig it out and place it in the garden.

Kitchen Floor at Bouman-Stickney: The Program Director asked when the kitchen floor will be painted. Helen noted that now is a good time but the floor must be completely clean for the paint to adhere. The Committee will organize a work party.

Acid Free Boxes: The Program Director noted that she had conserved much of the Museums' antique clothing collection in acid free boxes with acid free tissue. However, more were required. Joyce moved that the Museums purchase ten acid free boxes be purchased at a cost of \$405.83. Betty Ann seconded the motion and it was unanimously

RESOLVED, that the Museums purchase ten (10) acid free conservation boxes at a total cost of \$405.83.

Hunterdon County Cultural and Heritage Commission Grant: The Program Director noted that the deadline for grant applications was Friday, September 10. She requested approval from the Committee to apply for a grant to pursue a project to research Stickney/Lindsay history and to purchase related memorabilia. The project could also possibly include the purchase of a large screen to hold screenings of Howard Lindsay films as a family-friendly community activity.

Betty Ann moved to authorize the Program Director to apply for a grant in an amount up to \$3,000 to pursue a Stickney/Lindsay project for the Museums. Helen seconded the motion and it was unanimously

RESOLVED, that the Program be, and she hereby is, authorized to apply for a grant in an amount up to \$3,000 from the Hunterdon County Cultural and Heritage Commission to pursue a project relating to Dorothy Stickney and Howard Lindsay.

Readingtonmuseums.org: The Program Director asked the Committee if they had looked at the new website which is now up and running. The Committee will review the website and provide comments.

Events on Township Website: John Klotz of the Open Space Committee had suggested that the Museums announce their events on the Township's website. The Committee agreed that this was a good idea.

ADJOURNMENT: Erin moved that the meeting be adjourned. Joyce seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:11 p.m.



Respectfully submitted
Erin Brennan, Secretary