

THE READINGTON MUSEUMS
MUSEUM COMMITTEE
MEETING
June 2, 2011

Chairman Jim Horvath called the meeting to order at 7:45 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, Erin Brennan, Nancy O'Malley, Joyce Lykes, Helen Farrant, Program Director Kim Costa, and Museum Assistant Margaret Smith. A quorum of Committee members was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Nancy O'Malley moved to approve the minutes from the May 5, 2011 meeting, as amended. Joyce Lykes seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed with Betty Ann Fort abstaining.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR REPORT: The Program Director presented her report for May and the Committee reviewed and discussed it.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Fifth Grade: The Program Director reported that the 5th Grade Program went well and that assessments will be sent out to teachers.

Summer Intern: Brittany Gajewski, a sophomore at Rider University from Whitehouse Station, commenced May 13. She was a great help during the 5th grade program.

Barn Dance: Approximately 50 people attended the May 21st dance. Betty Ann observed that the demographic was mostly children and asked for ideas to bring in more adults, such as charging admission for children. She moved that the children 5 – 18 be charged \$1.00. Helen Farrant seconded the motion and it was unanimously

RESOLVED, that effective as of October 2011, children ages five through eighteen be charged a one dollar (\$1.00) admission fee for the Museums' biannual barn dance.

Home School Program: The children and parents (all from Readington) were well satisfied with the program and sent a thank you letter. With pupils aged five through thirteen, the atmosphere was more authentic to a one room schoolhouse. The Program Director advised, however, that if the program were repeated, it should be done in the fall.

Third Grade Program: There were too many children to do the surveying portion of the program at the Three Bridges School. The program at White House School will be broken up into two groups. Betty Ann commended the Program Director for developing the abbreviated program to keep the program active during the economically difficult times.

The Committee discussed the Third Grade Program in general and agreed that if the surveying portion were simplified it could be scheduled at the Hall House for 2012.

Lecture Series: The series will commence June 24th with 18th Century Kitchens, given by Kim Costa.

Kitchen Floor: The steps and the floor will be painted on June 18.

Budget: The Program Director noted that the Museums were charged \$1885 for the wood to replace the bridge. This should have been charged to the Open Space budget. Jim Horvath will discuss the matter with Tom Carro. He will also talk to him about using funds from the historic building maintenance fund.

Lights: Estimates still have not arrived from Mr. Electric and EPower.

Gardens: Danny Allen planted sun chokes, potatoes and onions at the Bouman Stickney Gardens.

Eversole Hall House Phone: Jim asked Meg Sluter from the Township to have the phone disconnected.

Tree Pruning: The Program Director reported that Bartlett gave an estimate of \$2200 to prune all trees in the orchard. Betty Ann moved that the magnolia be pruned as soon as possible at a cost not to exceed \$500. Helen seconded the motion and it was unanimously

RESOLVED, that the Program Director is authorized and empowered to engage Bartlett Tree Service to prune the magnolia tree at the Bouman Stickney Farmstead at a cost not to exceed \$500.

The Committee agreed that the other trees should be pruned in the fall.

Alarm System: The Program Director reported that the alarm had been activated three times but no one had been called. Jim suggested that the contract with the Central Station may have expired. The Program Director will contact Central Station.

ADJOURNMENT: Betty Ann moved that the meeting be adjourned. Joyce seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Erin Brennan
Secretary