

THE READINGTON MUSEUMS
MUSEUM COMMITTEE
MEETING
September 8, 2011

Chairman Jim Horvath called the meeting to order at 7:36 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, Erin Brennan, Helen Farrant, Program Director Kim Costa and Museum Assistant Margaret Smith. A quorum of Committee members was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Betty Ann Fort moved to approve the minutes from the August 4, 2011 meeting. Helen Farrant seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed.

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

OLD BUSINESS:

Lecture Series: Twenty attended the July lecture on Post Offices; the Museum Trust received \$30 in donations which enabled the purchase of the presenter's book, Hunterdon County, New Jersey: Postal History by Jim Walker. The Committee discussed the 2012 lecture series along with possible changes in focus.

Bridge: Public Works has started work on the bridge but it had to be stopped due to the rain. Thankfully the work received little hurricane damage.

Fruit Trees: The Program Director presented Dan Allen's plan for the fruit trees. The Committee agreed that the number of trees should be limited to six of each variety as more would change the aspect of the Farmstead. Betty Ann moved that the plan be approved. Erin Brennan seconded the motion and it was unanimously

RESOLVED, that the proposal to plant peach and chestnut trees on the Bouman Stickney Farmstead Property submitted to the Committee by Dan Allen be authorized, approved and ratified; provided, however that the number of trees to be planted shall not exceed six (6) peach and six (6) chestnut trees.

Eversole Hall House Garden: The Program Director asked if the September 17th meeting could be used to clean up the garden. The Committee agreed.

Collections Policy: The Program Director has circulated the Museums' current policy and has circulated it amongst the Collections Subcommittee for review.

Scouts: The Committee reviewed and discussed the list of scout projects sent to the Museums by John Klotz. The Program Director suggested recruiting a Girl Scout Gold Award candidate to upgrade the garden at the Bouman Stickney Farmstead.

Grants: The Program Director asked the Committee for approval to apply for three project grants as further described below.

(i) Betty Ann moved that the Museums apply for a one thousand dollar (\$1,000) project grant from the Hunterdon County Cultural and Heritage Commission. Helen seconded the motion. The funds received from the grant will be used to create a brochure describing the Readington Museums and the brochure will be placed in local hotels, welcome centers and other public places. ~~The Committee unanimously~~

RESOLVED that the application to the Hunterdon County Cultural and Heritage Commission for a project grant in the amount of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) (the "HCCHC Grant") be presented to the Township Committee for approval; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that any funds received pursuant to the HCCHC Grant be used to create and print a brochure describing the Readington Museums.

(ii) Betty Ann moved that the Museums apply for a two thousand dollar (\$2,000) mini project grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission. Erin seconded the motion. The funds received from the grant will be used to partially fund the Museums' 2012 exhibit "One House, Three Wars". The Committee unanimously

RESOLVED that the application to the New Jersey Historical Commission for a mini project grant in the amount of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) (the "NJHC Grant") be presented to the Township Committee for approval; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that any funds received pursuant to the NJHC Grant be used to partially fund an exhibit entitled, "One House, Three Wars".

(ii) Betty Ann moved that the Museums apply for a project grant from the New Jersey Council for the Humanities. Helen seconded the motion. The grants from the Council normally range from \$1500 - \$3000. The funds received from the grant will be used in conjunction with the funds from the NJHC grant to partially fund the Museums' 2012 exhibit "One House, Three Wars". The Committee unanimously

RESOLVED that the application to the New Jersey Council for the Humanities for a project grant in the amount of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) (the "NJCH Grant") be presented to the Township Committee for approval; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that any funds received pursuant to the NJCH Grant be used to partially fund an exhibit entitled, "One House, Three Wars".

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

September Open House: A gunsmith will be giving a demonstration on September 11. His fee is \$100.

October Open House: Ghost Stories will be told in the kitchen and possibly in other venues of the Farmstead. The Program Director asked for volunteers to usher guests into the building at regular intervals to avoid people coming in during the middle of a story. Betty Ann suggested that cider and cookies be served on the porch while people wait.

School Programs:

Fourth Grade: The Program will begin on September 19. The Committee noted that recitation will continue to be part of the program.

Fifth Grade: There is a possibility of testing being held during the period scheduled for the program. The Program Director will speak with the principal about possible alternatives.

ADJOURNMENT: Betty Ann moved that the meeting be adjourned. Erin seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Erin Brennan
Secretary

2011/11/11