

THE READINGTON MUSEUMS
MUSEUM COMMITTEE
MEETING
October 6, 2011

Chairman Jim Horvath called the meeting to order at 7:54 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, Nancy O'Malley, Joyce Lykes and Program Director Kim Costa. A quorum of Committee members was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Betty Ann Fort moved to approve the minutes from the September 8, 2011 meeting, as amended. Helen Farrant seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed with Nancy O'Malley and Joyce Lykes abstaining.

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

OLD BUSINESS:

Bridge: Public Works finished the work on the bridge and the Committee held a brief dedication ceremony prior to the meeting. The Committee commended the work and advised the Program Director to send a thank you letter to Scott Jesseman.

Programs:

October Ghost Stories: Nineteen people attended the program. Thirty-six dollars in donations were received. The Committee discussed why it was so lightly attended. The Program Director noted that she had done the same program at other venues where it was attended by hundreds of people. Potential reasons included (i) not being an established program; and (ii) it was not held in conjunction with another event.

Cold Brook School: Seven of the nine classes have been completed. Due to the weather the children could not play outside at recess.

First Grade: The school would like a per student fee instead of a per school fee (currently \$600 per school). The Program director will provide an appropriate figure based on the number of children in first grade.

Fifth Grade: The Program Director noted that the dates will not change as previously feared.

Barn Dance: The dance will be held on October 15th. Publicity has been done.

Properties:

Cold Brook School: The Committee discussed necessary repairs to Cold Brook School. Several roof shakes and the door sill must be replaced. The Committee considered if there was any wood left over from the bridge repair that could be used for the sill.

Bouman Stickney Farmstead: Dan Allen has the chestnut trees and has enlisted a Scout troop to plant them. A Girl Scout Gold Award candidate will upgrade the garden.

Phone Service: The Program Director noted that the Museums had been without phone service for nine days. She noted that a cable must be replaced and buried. Centurylink will provide the cable.

Guest Cottage: Now that the bridge is finished and vehicles can access the guest cottage, the Committee agreed that attention should be paid to installing an HVAC system. Betty Ann and Jim Horvath will speak with Scott Jesseman.

Grants: The Program Director noted that the application for the Hunterdon County Cultural and Heritage Commission grant (\$1,000) has been submitted. Problems with the on line application caused the deadline for the New Jersey Historical Commission grant (\$2,000) to be missed, but the Museums and the Township can reapply in January. The Program Director has received comments from New Jersey Council for the Humanities on the grant application (\$2,000). The deadline for this grant is October 14.

ADJOURNMENT: Betty Ann moved that the meeting be adjourned. Joyce seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Erin Brennan
Secretary