

THE READINGTON MUSEUMS
MUSEUM COMMITTEE
MEETING
May 3, 2012

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, Erin Brennan, Betty Ann Fort, Joyce Lykes, Nancy O'Malley, 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 April 5, 2012 meeting, as amended. Joyce Lykes seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR AND MUSEUM ASSISTANT'S REPORT: The Committee reviewed and discussed the museum assistant's report and the Program Director presented an oral report.

OLD BUSINESS:

Properties:

Bouman Stickney Farmstead:

May 19th Meeting: The Committee agreed that the May 19th meeting will be a work meeting. The "Honey Do List" includes: weeding the garden, painting the windows, repairing the porch screens and painting the upstairs stairway and hall.

Electric: The electrician will come this month.

Chimney: The chimney sweep cleaned the kitchen and furnace chimneys. He advised that the chimney cap was missing and a new one would cost approximately \$1800. The Committee agreed to table this item until the Fall.

Roof: The Program Director also advised that the chimney sweep informed her of a large crack in the roof sheathing. She will call roofers for estimates.

Programs:

Third Grade: This year's program has been completed. The Museums received positive feedback. The Program Director will send a letter of thanks to the Police Department for their participation in the program. The Program Director recommended that each segment be increased from 25 to 30 minutes.

Fifth Grade: Dates are May 14, 15, 16, 24 and June 4. Rain date is June 5. Betty Ann then advised the Committee that one of the fifth grade parents informed her that each student was being charged \$18 to attend the program. The Museums charge the school \$3250, as the fifth grade program is the most costly. This flat fee was agreed upon several years ago when the grade included more students. Although the number of students decreased, the rate did not. The Committee agreed that a per child price of \$8.00 was appropriate. Betty Ann moved that the

Museums charge \$8.00 per child and that the school reduce the per child price accordingly. Joyce seconded the motion and it was unanimously

RESOLVED, that the price charged to the schools for the Fifth Grade Program be changed from a flat fee to a price of \$8.00 per child; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Program Director be authorized to inform the Readington Township School District of the aforementioned resolution and to request that the school reduce the price paid by each child accordingly; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Committee will review and revise, if necessary, the price charged for the 2012-2013 Fifth Grade Program.

Wedding: The Committee discussed the recent wedding held at the Bouman Stickney Farmstead. The Program Director recommended that the barn and grounds rental rates of \$200 and \$100, respectively, be increased given the amount of time required by Museum staff to deal with event rentals. Moreover, while permission to erect a small tent for (hot) food is included in the price of the barn rental, renters have many times erected a banquet sized tent, which would normally require grounds rental. The Committee agreed that a package deal of both barn and grounds could be offered and that there should be no change for Township residents and non-profit organizations. Erin Brennan moved that rental prices for non-Township residents be increased to (i) \$500 for both barn and grounds; (ii) \$400 for the barn only; and (iii) \$200 for the grounds only. Helen Farrant seconded the motion and it was unanimously

RESOLVED, that, effective immediately, the event rental rates for the barn and grounds of the Bouman Stickney Farmstead shall be as follows:

Readington Township Residents and Non-Profit Organizations:

Barn only - \$200.00

Grounds only - \$100.00

Non-Township Residents:

Barn only - \$400.00

Grounds only - \$200.00

Barn and grounds - \$500.00

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Program Director be, and she hereby is, authorized and empowered to authorized to take all such further action in order to carry out the intent and effectuate the purpose of the foregoing.

Barn Dance: May 19th.

ADJOURNMENT: Betty Ann moved that the meeting be adjourned. Erin seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Erin Brennan
Secretary