

THE READINGTON MUSEUMS
MUSEUM COMMITTEE
MEETING
March 7, 2013

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, Program Director Kimberly 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 February 7, 2013 meeting. Joyce Lykes seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR AND MUSEUM ASSISTANT'S REPORTS: The Committee reviewed and discussed the reports.

PROPERTIES:

Bouman Stickney Kitchen Floor: The Program Director reported that the asbestos test came back negative. The Committee discussed alternatives, such as laminate facsimiles of wood or dirt.

Bouman Stickney Driveway: The Program Director noted that Buildings and Grounds graded the driveway. The Committee agreed that the Buildings and Grounds staff are a treasure to the Township.

Cold Brook School: The Program Director reported that the new stove is coming on March 29th.

Guest House: Jim Horvath and Betty Ann Fort met with Scott Jesseman , who advised against heating the building with propane due to propane trucks damaging the bridge over the stream. He advised electric heat. Scott later reviewed the site with K Electric to determine the level of electric service required.

PROGRAMS:

Sunday Open Houses: The March lacemaking demonstration saw 32 people attending. The April open house will feature "A Day in the Life of Vrou Bouman".

Open Hearth Cooking Program: Eight people attended and a good time was had by all.

First Grade Program: The program started today (March 7) and is presented using a more "hands on" approach than in prior years .

Third Grade Program: The program will start on April 3rd. A timekeeper is still needed.

Fourth Grade Program: The Hurricane Sandy make up program will occur in May.

Fifth Grade Program: The program will take place at the end of May.

Other Programs: The Readington Assembly (Regency Era dance) will take place on April 6th from 7 – 9:30, with lessons being given from 6:00 to 6:45 pm. Cookies and other desserts are needed.

OTHER MATTERS:

New Jersey Historic Trust Grant: The grant application is due April 5th. The Program Director will send it out to the Committee in sections for review.

StEPs Program: The Program Director and the Museum Assistant will be participating in the webinars for the “Standards and Excellence Program for History Organizations” program, a voluntary assessment program for small- and mid-sized history organizations. The program, created by AASLH with funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, encourages awareness and achievement of national standards.

Volunteer Open House: Readington Township will be holding a volunteer open house at the municipal building on April 10th at 7:00 p.m. The Museums will set up a presentation with slide show.

Third Grade Program Tent: The Program Director mentioned that the surveyor’s tent originally purchased for the Third Grade Program was too large, too difficult to assemble and historically inaccurate for its use. She suggested selling it and using the proceeds towards the purchase of another.

ADJOURNMENT: Erin Brennan moved that the meeting be adjourned. Betty Ann seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Erin Brennan
Secretary