

THE READINGTON MUSEUMS
MUSEUM COMMITTEE
MEETING
May 2, 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.

GUEST: Michael Falkner

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Betty Ann Fort moved to approve the minutes from the April 4, 2013 meeting, as amended. Erin Brennan seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed.

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

FINANCIAL:

Betty Ann reported that the Township Committee decided to appropriate half of the funds in the Readington Museums Trust (approximately \$30,000) to the general fund. She explained that the Township faced a budget shortfall due to the reduction in property tax revenues and the Hurricane Sandy clean up expenses, which will only partially be covered by FEMA.

Jim Horvath asked the Program Director to prepare for the Committee a summary of Museum activities during the previous year, including number of people attending.

PROGRAMS:

Sunday Open Houses: The May beer brewing program will be held in the upstairs room as it holds more people¹.

Third Grade Program: The program went well. The Program Director passed the pupils' assessments of the program around. Nearly all of them gave kudos to Ronan the police dog.

Fourth Grade Program: The Hurricane Sandy make up program is ongoing. One class will be held on May 24th.

Fifth Grade Program: The program will take place at the end of May. A timekeeper is needed.

Monday Mornings at the Museum: A Girl Scout Gold Award candidate will be organizing the programming for this summer's program.

¹ The weather enabled the program to be held outdoors.

Hunterdon Tercentenary: The Program Director advised that Judy Grow borrowed the Museums' quilts for a book being prepared for the Tercentenary. The Museums will be holding an ice cream social to celebrate county's 300th birthday.

OTHER MATTERS:

Metal Detector: Jim introduced Michael Falkner to the Committee. Mr. Falkner, who recently moved to Readington, is an expert at metal detecting and is interested in detecting at the Museum properties. The Committee discussed the matter. Betty Ann moved that the metal detecting be allowed provided that any artifacts remain property of the Museums and that any apparent caches be marked so that a proper archeological review can be made. Erin Brennan seconded the motion and it was unanimously

RESOLVED, that the Committee hereby permits Michael Falkner to use a metal detector on any Museum Property; *provided, however*, that (i) any artifacts found on Museum Property will remain the property of the Museums, and (ii) any apparent caches be marked to permit a proper archeological review thereof.

Wedding: An application to rent the barn and the grounds for a wedding on September 7th from 12 – 10 pm was submitted to the Committee for approval. Betty Ann moved that the application be accepted. Joyce Lykes seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT: Erin Brennan moved that the meeting be adjourned. Betty Ann seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Erin Brennan
Secretary