

THE READINGTON MUSEUMS
MUSEUM COMMITTEE
MEETING
October 3, 2013

Chairman Jim Horvath called the meeting to order at 7:38 p.m. after the Committee met as a work party to move the chairs to their correct place in the barn. 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, Helen Farrant, Nancy O'Malley, Joyce Lykes and Acting Program Director Margaret Smith. A quorum of Committee members was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Erin Brennan moved to approve the minutes from the September 5, 2013 meeting. Betty Ann Fort seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed..

ACTING PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT: The Committee reviewed and discussed the report.

PROGRAMS:

September 8 Open House: Over twenty people visited Mrs. Hall at Home. The October open house will feature a photographic nature walk. Margaret noted that the article advertising the program on NJ.com was incorrect.

School Programs

Third Grade: Margaret noted that we may not have a surveyor for the program. She will explore additional options.

Holland Brook School Programs: Betty Ann reported that she spoke with Dave Livingston, the Chairman of the Board of Education, about setting up a meeting with the principal of Holland Brook School about the various issues that have arisen. Dave will have the principal call her.

Barn Dance: The dance will occur on October 19. Joyce Lykes and Erin will set up.

2014 Summer Lecture Series: The Committee discussed potential lecturers, including Marty's Clock Clinic, and John Kuhl.

PROPERTIES:

Cold Brook School

Insect Infestation: Ehrlich pest control confirmed that Cold Brook School was infested with powder post beetles in the beams, trim and furniture. Ehrlich advised that the furniture can be treated either off site or on site in a pod. The total cost to exterminate the beetles would amount between \$5,000-10,000. In addition, Cold Brook School has carpenter ants in the soffits. If carpenter ants are not in the Township's contract, the cost would be approximately \$300. Margaret Smith will ask Ehrlich when the spraying can be done as we don't want to spray insecticides while school is in session. Joyce Lykes moved that if the Township's contract does not include carpenter ants, Ehrlich be engaged to eradicate them at a cost not to exceed \$500. Helen Farrant seconded the motion and it was unanimously

RESOLVED, that subject to carpenter ants being included in the Township's pest control contract with Ehrlich, the Acting Program Director is authorized and empowered to engage Ehrlich to eradicate the carpenter ants at Cold Brook School at a cost not to exceed \$500.

Betty Ann will ask the Township Administrator what is included in the contract and will also inquire if insurance will cover the powder post beetles. Jim recommended that when the school is closed for the winter, the firewood be removed. Joyce also recommended a three year plan be acquired to continue the eradication of the ants. The Committee further discussed financing options for the elimination of the beetles.

Painting: Margaret noted that Will Getz (Eagle Scout Candidate) and his group painted the schoolhouse. Unfortunately, the wood will have to be stripped of all paint prior to eliminating the powder post beetles.

Bouman Stickney Farmstead

Trees: Bartlett Tree Experts provided an estimate to reduce the crown of the magnolia and trim it away from the roof at a cost of \$660. They further advised that the quince tree has "rust". Betty Ann moved that Bartlett Tree Experts be engaged to trim the magnolia and treat the quince tree at a cost not to exceed \$800. Erin seconded the motion and it was unanimously

RESOLVED, that Bartlett Experts be engaged to trim the magnolia and treat the quince tree at a cost not to exceed \$800.

Work Meeting: The Committee discussed removing the tile from the kitchen floor and replacing the screen door at the October 19th meeting.

OTHER MATTERS:

Program Director Search: Jim requested the Committee to think about a job description for the next meeting.

Cradle Donation: Betty Ann moved that the 19th century cradle offered to the Museums by Howard Hilfman and Jessica Spado be graciously accepted with appreciation. Helen seconded the motion and it was unanimously

RESOLVED, that the 19th century cradle offered to the Museums by Howard Hilfman and Jessica Spado be graciously accepted with appreciation.

Picture Donation: Betty Ann moved that the picture of children at a one room schoolhouse offered to the Museums by JoAnne Mamone be graciously accepted with appreciation. Nancy O'Malley seconded the motion and it was unanimously

RESOLVED, that the picture of children at a one room schoolhouse offered to the Museums by JoAnne Mamone be graciously accepted with appreciation.

White House/Mechanicsville National Register Nomination: Jim noted that a public meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. on October 29th at the Municipal Building regarding White House/Mechanicsville's nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

ADJOURNMENT: Betty Ann moved that the meeting be adjourned. Nancy seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Erin Brennan
Secretary