

THE READINGTON MUSEUMS  
MUSEUM COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING  
August 7, 2014

Chairman Jim Horvath called the meeting to order at 7:33 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, Nancy O'Malley, Helen Farrant, and Acting Program Director Margaret Smith. A quorum of Committee members was present.

**GUESTS:** Eagle Scout Candidate Matthew Sidler and his father, Rick Sidler.

**EAGLE SCOUT PROPOSAL:** Matthew Sidler of Troop 186 in Three Bridges presented a project proposal to construct and install ten bluebird houses throughout the open space on the Bouman Stickney Farmstead property. The Committee questioned Matthew about funding, workers and maintenance. To the Committee members' questions about maintaining the birdhouses, Matthew replied that the maintenance could not be included in the Eagle Scout project, but, at the Committee's suggestion, he agreed to look into proposing the maintenance of the birdhouses as a service project for another troop. Helen Farrant moved that the proposal be accepted as presented. Nancy O'Malley seconded the motion and it was unanimously

RESOLVED, that the bluebird house construction project presented to the Committee by Eagle Scout Candidate Matthew Sidler be approved as presented to the Committee at this meeting.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Nancy moved to approve the minutes from the July 10, 2014 open meeting. Helen seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. Nancy then moved to approve the minutes from the July 10, 2014 executive session. Helen seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed.

**ACTING PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** The Committee reviewed and discussed the report. The Committee then walked around the farmhouse to view the efforts to prevent the bats from getting into the attic.

**INTERNSHIP PROPOSAL:** Erin Brennan will write a job description.

**MISSION STATEMENT:** The Committee reviewed and discussed the mission statement prepared by Betty Ann Fort. Jim Horvath will prepare several revisions based on the Committee's comments for review at the next meeting.

**PROGRAMS:**

*Summer Lecture Series:* John Kuhl will speak about Hunterdon County in the Civil War on August 22<sup>nd</sup>.

*Monday Mornings:* One little boy attended this week. Two are scheduled for next week.

*Open Houses:* Margaret Smith will try to schedule a beekeeper for the September 7<sup>th</sup> open house.

**PROPERTIES:**

*Bouman Stickney Farmstead*

**Floor:** Jim showed pictures of new and old brick tile. He will call Whitehouse Floors for an estimate.

*Eversole Hall House:*

Paint: Margaret presented estimates from Phil Foreman (\$5500), Jim Knowles (\$3900), and Bret Nittle (\$4600). After discussion, Erin moved that Jim Knowles be selected to paint the exterior of the Eversole Hall House. Nancy seconded the motion and it was unanimously

RESOLVED, that the Acting Program Director engage Jim Knowles to paint the exterior of the Eversole Hall House, at a cost not to exceed \$3900.

*Cold Brook School*

Powder Post Beetles: Terminex will do the extermination on August 9.

**OTHER:**

*Rentals:* The Committee discussed the barn rental application of Saunders for a Sweet Sixteen party on October 25<sup>th</sup>. Margaret noted that the applicant had submitted a beer and wine permit from the Township Administrator. The Committee advised her to advise the Administrator that the event will be a Sweet Sixteen and attended by teenagers. Margaret will speak further with the applicant.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Helen moved that the meeting be adjourned. Nancy seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Erin Brennan  
Vice-Chair and Secretary