

THE READINGTON MUSEUMS
MUSEUM COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
July 9, 2015

Chairman Jim Horvath called the meeting to order at 7:40 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, Helen Farrant, Betty Ann Fort, Nancy O'Malley, Program Director Margaret Smith and Intern Barbara Krasner. A quorum of Committee members was present. Committee Member Frank Gatti was absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Helen Farrant moved to approve the minutes from the June 4, 2015 meeting, as amended. Nancy O'Malley seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed.

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

PROPERTIES:

Bouman Stickney Farmstead

Wedding Damage: Program Director Margaret Smith reported on the damage sustained by the barn and grounds by the wedding held on June 27th. There was confetti left in the barn, debris on the lawn, the garbage was left outside, tire tracks were in the lawn, and nails were hammered into the barn's 250 year old beams in violation of the rental rules. After discussion, Erin Brennan moved that the security deposit of Lisa Oldender and Mitchell Gorsstein be forfeited and a letter be sent to the couple informing them of the decision. Nancy seconded the motion and it was unanimously

RESOLVED, that the security deposit of Lisa Oldender and Mitchell Gorsstein for the rental of the barn and grounds on June 27, 2015 be forfeited due to the damage sustained by the barn and grounds; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Program Director communicate the Committee's decision to Ms Oldender and Mr. Gorsstein in writing.

Barn Treatment: Jim Knowles will power wash and treat the barn on July 13.

Trees: Nancy reported that she found a source for the apple trees, "Orangepippintrees.com". They are \$29.00 each and will be ordered to arrive early spring 2016. Nancy will also pick up a soil test kit. Dan Allen will be asked to plant the trees when the time comes.

Eversole Hall House:

Porch: Jim Horvath will email Mike Hanrahan to take a look at it.

Rentals: The following rental application was presented to the Committee for approval:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
Sue Evans	August 22, 2015	Wedding—Barn and Grounds

Betty Ann Fort moved that the rental application be approved as submitted. Helen Farrant seconded the motion and it was unanimously

RESOLVED, that the rental application of Sue Evans, as submitted to the Committee be, and it hereby is, authorized, approved and ratified.

PROGRAMS:

Third Grade Program: Margaret and Barbara Krasner noted that they received great feedback.

Monday Mornings: Margaret reported that approximately 30 children are on the list to attend. Thirteen attended on July 6. Several sessions have waiting lists.

Winnewald Day Camp: 24 children attended. The militiaman did not show up, but otherwise the program was a success.

Lecture Series: Richard Hunter will deliver a lecture on Rowlands Mills on July 31st. Margaret received posters on the archeological work from the Cultural Heritage Commission. Susan Plaisted will deliver a lecture on the Lenape on August 28th.

Open Houses: The September open house will be held on September 13 and will feature a cheesemaker.

OTHER:

Internship: The Committee reviewed Barbara's internship report. She advised the Committee that her last day would be July 31st. When asked for her comments on the Museums' programs, she stated that she was very impressed with the school programs and that she hadn't experienced any other local museums with such community involvement.

Margaret and Erin will write a letter to Barbara's professor at William Patterson. Erin will also update the letters to professors for next year's intern.

Committee Succession Planning: The Committee discussed possible new members for the Committee as Jim Horvath will be moving out of the Township.

Donations: The Committee accepted the anonymous donation of brooms. Joyce Lykes moved that the 19th century dress and early 20th century shoes from Perry Adams be accepted. Helen seconded the motion and it was unanimously

RESOLVED, that the donation of a 19th century dress and early 20th century shoes from Perry Adams be accepted with gratitude.

Eagle Scouts: Jim read a thank you letter from Matthew Sidler, whose Court of Honor was held at the Farmstead. Margaret noted that she had heard from Alex Jason, who informed her that he had started work on constructing the well and grain bin.

Rental Fees: The Committee discussed increasing the rental fees for the barn and grounds in light of the recent damage. The Committee agreed that increasing the security deposit to \$250 would provide a greater incentive for renters to "leave the place as they found it". Betty Ann made a corresponding motion; Joyce seconded the motion and it was unanimously

RESOLVED, that the security deposit on barn and grounds rentals be increased to \$250 commencing with rentals occurring in 2016; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that applicants who have already submitted their deposits for events occurring in 2016 will not be subject to the increased security deposit.

The Committee also discussed the insurance requirements in the rental agreement. Betty Ann will ask Sharon Dragon, Tim Apgar and Vita Mekovetz to review.

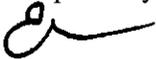
National Register Signs: The Committee reviewed the estimate from FAST Signs for new signs for the Township's National Register districts and for the Eversole Hall House. The Committee noted that Stanton was missing from the estimate. Erin moved that the estimate be accepted as amended; Betty Ann seconded the motion and it was unanimously

RESOLVED, that FAST Signs be engaged to create signs for the Township's National Register Historic Districts and for the Eversole Hall House in accordance with their revised estimate at a cost not to exceed \$3500.00; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the funds for the signs described in the foregoing resolution be taken from the Museum Trust.

ADJOURNMENT: Joyce moved that the meeting be adjourned. Nancy seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Erin Brennan
Vice-Chair and Secretary

