

THE READINGTON MUSEUMS
MUSEUM COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
August 6, 2015

Chairman Jim Horvath called the meeting to order at 7:45 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: Committee Members Jim Horvath, Erin Brennan, Helen Farrant, Betty Ann Fort, Nancy O'Malley, and Joyce Lykes. A quorum of Committee members was present. Program Director Margaret Smith and Committee Member Frank Gatti were absent.

GUESTS: Emma Parrella and Anna Fitz of Girl Scout Troop 81270; Trish Sarrow.

GIRL SCOUT SILVER AWARD GARDEN PROJECT: Emma Parrella and Anna Fitz updated the Committee on their restoration of the Bouman Stickney Colonial Garden for their Silver Award project. They explained that each of the plants are either self-seeding or perennial and are in some way used for food or medicine. They also reported that they are currently working on meeting the sustainability requirement of the award by finding people to continue to maintain the garden. Jim Horvath asked the scouts to provide an updated map of the garden.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Betty Ann Fort moved to approve the minutes from the July 9, 2015 meeting, as amended. Helen Farrant seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed.

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

PROGRAMS:

Monday Mornings: Trish Sarrow gave her impressions as a volunteer at the program. She noted that the children had fun and that many parents stayed for the program.

Lecture Series: Nineteen people (not including Committee Members) attended Richard Hunter's lecture on Rowlands Mills. 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.

PROPERTIES:

Bouman Stickney Farmstead

Barn Treatment: The barn was power washed and treated. The Committee was satisfied with the job.

Trees: Nancy O'Malley placed the order but asked for confirmation of the size. The Committee agreed to order "medium" trees. They will arrive early spring 2016. Dan Allen will be asked to plant the trees when the time comes. The Committee also noted that one of the chestnut trees has nuts.

Eversole Hall House:

Porch: The Committee reviewed Mike Hanrahan's findings and agreed to replace just the porch floor and any needed framing at this time. Jim will ask Chuck Waters to advise if he can do it or if he can recommend someone.

Cold Brook School: The Committee agreed to hold a work meeting there in September to clean it out prior to the fourth grade program.

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
Nadia Abad/Geraud	June 18, 2016	Wedding—Barn and Grounds
Mary Beth Homa/Robb	September 17, 2016	Wedding—Barn and Grounds

Erin Brennan moved that the rental application be approved as submitted. Helen Farrant seconded the motion and it was unanimously

RESOLVED, that the rental applications of (i) Nadia Abad and (ii) Mary Beth Homa, as submitted to the Committee be, and they hereby are, authorized, approved and ratified.

Trish Sarrow gave her comments regarding her recent event at the barn. The event was held the week after a wedding where the renters did not completely clean up the property. Trish expressed her love for the property and noted that the rental fee is less than other venues. The Committee discussed the fees and Betty Ann moved that the security deposit for non-residents be increased to \$500 for all future applicants who have not yet paid their deposit. Joyce Lykes seconded the motion and it was unanimously

RESOLVED, that RESOLVED, that the security deposit on barn and grounds rentals be increased to \$500 commencing with applications whose security deposit has not yet been received.

Betty Ann advised the Committee that Sam Tropello, at a recent Township Committee meeting, raised the issue of all revenues earned by properties purchased with Green Acres funding being placed into a special account for the maintenance of all Green Acres funded properties in accordance with the Green Acres regulations. Jim will research the regulations.

OTHER:

Internship: The Committee reviewed and discussed the proposed letter to professors for next year's intern. The Committee asked Erin to shorten the letter.

Cultural & Heritage Commission Web Page: The Committee agreed that the Museums' entry on the web page must be updated. Erin will work with the Program Director to update.

ADJOURNMENT: Betty Ann moved that the meeting be adjourned. Joyce seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Erin Brennan
Vice-Chair and Secretary