

THE READINGTON MUSEUMS
MUSEUM COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
June 1, 2017

Chairman Sheila Paciullo called the meeting to order at 7:39 p.m. She announced that all laws governing the Open Public Meetings Act had been met and that the meeting had been duly advertised.

PRESENT: Committee Members Sheila Paciullo, Sarah John, Mario Orlandi, Nancy O'Malley, Rene Rao, Helen Farrant, Museum Director, Margaret Smith and summer intern Renee Stencovski attended. A quorum of Committee members was present. Committee member, Joyce Lykes, and Township Liaison, Betty Ann Fort, were absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Nancy O'Malley moved to approve the minutes from the May 4, 2017 meeting. Rene Rao seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

BUSINESS -

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

GRANT:

- The Museum received a purchase order for the grant. Vita has signed it and now Margaret will do the same.

BUDGET:

- There was a discussion that focused on the correct way to record funds received per the budget/grant requirements.

PROPERTIES:

Bouman Stickney Farmstead:

- The new temporary lighting along the pathways and for the porta-john is very helpful and quite attractive.
- Margaret submitted work orders to Buildings and Grounds to repair the broken gutter leader, bridge repairs and surrounding gravel damage from recent storm, and to add gravel in front of the barn doors even though that gravel tends to track into the barn.
- It was noted that the parking lot needs to be leveled. Margaret will submit an order to Buildings and Grounds to do that using $\frac{3}{4}$ clean stone.
- Also, there are loose/cracked floorboards on the second floor that need attention.
- Scott Jesseman suggested contacting a flooring company for recommendations of flooring options in the kitchen and how to address the possibility of asbestos in the existing floor tiles.
 - Margaret consulted with Direct Floors of Flemington as to whether the existing tiles should be removed since there is moisture coming up from below the floor. She is waiting on suggested asbestos testing companies.
 - Mario will give Margaret the name of someone to test for asbestos.
- A representative from the Open Space Advisory Board previously presented issues regarding the deer population on the property and the Ash tree insect infestation.
 - After discussing management options of the deer population issue and the related safety issues, Sheila made the motion to maintain the property as a "No Hunting" area. Mario seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- Bob Becker from the Open Space Advisory Board will be able to identify and advise on those Ash trees impacted by infestation next year.

Eversole-Hall: Nothing to report

Cold Brook School:

- It's been suggested that we try either vinegar or bleach or CLR to clean what appears to be mildew marks on the exterior. We will test in an inconspicuous spot.

PROGRAMS: past

May 7th Open House : 18th Century Ice Cream

- 30 Adults and 5 children attended the event and were unaffected by the cold weather.

May 13th Barn Dance

- 50 adults and 10 children attended. A good turn-out despite being a rainy day.

Third Grade School Program –

- Complete.
- Rainy weather caused us to cancel the outside half of the program for one class. The police dog segment was delayed for another class due to an emergency call.
- 36 children from the Plainfield school district participated in a “Life on the Farmstead” program at Bouman- Stickney. We received great feedback from the teachers.

PROGRAMS/EVENTS: upcoming

June 6th Cultural Heritage Community Day

- Margaret and Renee S. will setup a tent and table with information and activities for the kids.
- Sheila and Rene R. will stop by during the day.

June 30th Lecture : “The Settlers of Hunterdon”

- Mike Alfano (lecturer) is confirmed. He will speak about the Stanton area.
- The press release has been sent and the event has been entered on online calendar.

July 21st Lecture: “Art in Food and Food in Art”

August 18th Lecture: “History of Diners in New Jersey”

SUB-COMMITTEE:

- The committee discussed/prioritized work to be considered on the Bouman-Stickney property. Top of the list are:
 - A small railing near the steps in the barn.
 - The kitchen floor.
 - The loose floorboards on the second floor.
 - Screens for the porch.

OTHER:

Saturday Meeting with Stephanie Stevens:

- Stephanie Stevens met the committee on Saturday May 20th telling many stories about the histories of the museums.
- We sent a “thank you” card shortly thereafter.

ADJOURNMENT: Nancy moved that the meeting be adjourned. Sarah seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Farrant
Secretary