

THE READINGTON MUSEUMS
MUSEUMS COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
January 4, 2024

Vice Chairman Sheila Paciullo called the meeting to order at 7:32 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, Nancy O’Malley, Mario Orlandi, Christina Spring, and Museum Director Margaret Smith were in attendance. Members Rene Rao, Joyce Lykes, and Township Committee Liaison Vincent Panico were absent. A quorum of Committee members was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes from December 7th, 2023 were reviewed. Nancy made a motion to approve as amended, and Mario seconded. Sarah, Nancy, Mario and Rene (in absentia) voted in favor. Sheila and Christina did not vote, as they were absent from the meeting.

BUSINESS –

REORGANIZATION:

Introduce New Board Member: The committee welcomes our newest committee member, Christina Spring. We are grateful for her volunteer service thus far, and look forward to working with her going forward.

ELECTIONS:

Chair: Sheila Paciullo nominated Rene Rao for chair. Sarah John seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Vice chair: Nancy O’Malley nominated Sheila Paciullo for Vice Chair. Mario Orlandi seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Secretary: Mario Orlandi nominated Sarah John for Secretary. Nancy O’Malley seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer: Sheila Paciullo nominated Nancy O’Malley for Treasurer. Sarah John seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Approve 2024 Calendar:

2024-25 Readington Township Museums' Committee Meeting Schedule

Month	Date	Month	Date
January	4	August	1
February	1	September	5
March	7	October	3
April	4	November	7
May	2	December	5
June	6	January	9

July	11		
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Mario made a motion to approve the meeting calendar, as listed above. Nancy seconded. The motion passed unanimously

PROGRAM DIRECTOR’S REPORT: The committee reviewed and discussed the report.

BUDGET:

- **Grants:** The 2023 Historic Preservation Grant awards were finalized at the December 5th County Commissioners meeting. The Museums has been awarded \$40,000 for repairs to the screened porch at the Thomas Bowman House.

PROPERTIES:

Bouman Stickney Farmstead:

- **Emergency Exit:** no update at this time. This is an issue the committee would really like to pursue this year. Hopefully the next time both Ron Christy and Tom Petto are on site it can be addressed.
- **Accessibility Ramp:** Margaret resent her second email about the ramp to Ron Christy and Tom Petto. Ron advised that after the reorganization meeting, we will plan a time to meet on site to discuss options.

Eversole-Hall:

- Nothing at this time

Cold Brook School:

- Nothing at this time

Taylor’s Mill:

- The Friends of Taylor’s Mill meeting will be held later this month. Sarah is a Trustee on this board, and plans to bring the interests of the Museums Committee to light in those sessions. At this time, the focus is on preparing the preservation plan and fundraising efforts, including grant applications, for 2024.
 - WW has been identifying streams and water access points where visitors might be able to park, take a walk, etc.

PROGRAMS/EVENTS: past

- none since the last meeting

PROGRAMS/EVENTS:

Upcoming Programming and Events:

- **May 5, 2024 Enslows** Washington and His Spies show
- **Viking Visionaries Day** - May 21st, middle school volunteers will visit the EHH to help with the garden and other maintenance tasks

Discuss The Dorothy Stickney Art Series Program: nothing at this time

OTHER:

Exhibit Case:

- The exhibits will be swapped in January. The new exhibit will be presented by the D.A.R. celebrating the Constitution

Long Range Plan:

- Sarah suggested small groups work on the Long Range Plan and then bring it back to the committee in stages to complete this task. The committee agreed to discuss this at a future meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: Sarah moved that the meeting be adjourned. Sheila seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah John
Secretary