

THE READINGTON MUSEUMS
MUSEUMS COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
March 7, 2024

Chairman Rene Rao called the meeting to order at 7:34 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 Rene Rao, Sheila Paciullo, Christina Spring, Nancy O'Malley, Joyce Lykes and Museum Director Margaret Smith were in attendance. Members Sarah John and Mario Orlandi, and Township Committee Liaison Vincent Panico were absent. A quorum of Committee members was present. One member of the public was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes from February 1, 2024 were reviewed. Chrissy made a motion to approve as presented, Joyce seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The minutes from the Special Meeting on February 12, 2024 were reviewed. Nancy made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, Chrissy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

BUSINESS –

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

BUDGET:

- **Grants:** The 2024 CHPP Grant for \$10,000 was awarded to the Readington Museums. These funds are intended for salary as well as heating and security costs.
- **Trust:** The Museums Director requested an update on the trust account balance and activity and is waiting on the information.

PROPERTIES:

Bouman Stickney Farmstead:

- **Ramp:** Margaret discussed some new dates to set up a meeting with Ron Christy and Museums members to discuss repairs.
- **Porch Repair Update:** In early February, several Township Officials indicated that they wanted to take a look at the architect's report and estimates already received. No further communications occurred. On March 1, the Museums Director requested an update. Rich Sheola said new contractor estimates are needed. He will also check on additional funds.

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Eversole-Hall:

- Volunteers needed for a clean-up at the house during the last week of March or first week of April. This is required prior to a school program at the site in April.

Cold Brook School:

- Nothing at this time

Taylor's Mill:

- Nothing at this time

PROGRAMS/EVENTS: past

March 3rd -Open house at BSF welcomed about 50 people. In the barn, pictures and information on the history of the Wade-Wyckoff Barn were displayed and drew a lot of interest.

PROGRAMS/EVENTS:

Upcoming Programming and Events:

- **March- School Program-** 3rd grade WHS
- **March 20- Parent Academy at HBS- Museums** will display a slide show of programs, a tri-fold with pictures and offer hands-on activities
- **April 7 Open House-** Lost Art Lacers- **Volunteers needed**
- **April- 5th grade program and 3rd grade program -Volunteers needed**
- **May 5 Enslows-** Washington and His Spies show-**Volunteers needed**
- **May- School program- 1st grade TBS-** dates being discussed
- **Viking Visionaries Day** - May 21st- About 12-15 middle school students will visit the EHH for their “Civics Day” to help with the garden and other maintenance tasks. Committee to consider ideas for the students to work on in the event of rain.

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

OTHER:

Donation

An offer to donate to the Museums, a Stanton Business Calendar from 1925, was discussed. The Committee felt that the Hunterdon County Historic Preservation Archives would be better able to preserve the item. Nancy made a motion to decline the donation. Chrissy seconded. A quorum agreed to decline.

Filming on Museum property

- The Committee discussed information about filming on a historic site, approvals needed from Historic Preservation and other strict factors. The Committee decided to decline any requests for filming. Rene will contact Hunterdon County Filming to remove inside and outside photos of BSF to avoid any filming requests.

Long Range Plan:

- No update at this time.

ADJOURNMENT: Nancy moved that the meeting be adjourned. Sheila seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sheila Paciullo
Vice Chair