

THE READINGTON MUSEUMS  
MUSEUMS COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING  
May 2, 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, Sarah John, Christina Spring, Nancy O’Malley, Museum Director Margaret Smith and Township Committee Liaison Vincent Panico were in attendance. Members Mario Orlandi and Joyce Lykes were absent. A quorum of Committee members was present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The minutes from April 4, 2024 were reviewed. Nancy made a motion to approve as amended, and Sheila seconded. Nancy, Sheila, Sarah, and Rene voted in favor. Christina did not vote, as she was absent from the meeting.

**BUSINESS –**

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

**BUDGET:**

- **Trust:** No update at this time
- **Budget:** Township budget will be introduced on Monday night. In the proposed budget, there is an item for an Assistant Director.

**PROPERTIES:**

*Bouman Stickney Farmstead:*

- **Accessibility Ramp:** The ramp has been repaired.
- **Porch:** Vinny said that after the budget goes through, there would be new bids put out in order to plan with an updated cost estimate.

*Eversole-Hall:*

- Clean up required again prior to school programs on Friday, May 31st

*Cold Brook School:*

- Update on leaky roof: There is a dark brown tarp now covering the roof, held down by timbers.

*Taylor’s Mill:*

- Update on earthquake damage: Sarah gave an update on the damage from the earthquake, and the current plan currently in review to repair that damage through emergency funding.

**PROGRAMS/EVENTS: Past Programs**

- **April 7 Open House – Lace Making:** Beth Harpel from the Lost Arts  
Lacers: 27 engaged visitors were able to practice on a “try-it” pillow.

- **April 28, 2 PM Special Bus Tour to BSF Tour for the Long Hill Township Historical Society:** Six docents hosted the event: Rene, Sheila, Betty Ann, Sharon, Katherine, Karen, and Margaret. 33 visitors were split into 4 groups, and each group of 8 rotated to designated stations to talk with a docent about the history and building.

**Upcoming Programming and Events:**

- May 5 - Enslows, Washington and his Spies: Nancy, Sheila, Margaret, and Rene can attend
- May 11 - Barn Dance: Sarah, Nancy, Sheila, and Margaret can attend
- May 21 - Viking Visionary Day middle school volunteers will visit the EHH to help with the garden and other maintenance tasks: Rene can attend

**School Programming:**

- Fifth Grade: April 15 - 22 and Third Grade: WHS April 23, 24 Completed.

**Upcoming:**

- First Grade: TBS May 10, 15, 24, 29
- Third Grade: TBS June 5, 10 (rain 11, 12)

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

**OTHER:**

Tomorrow, May 4th, will be the name dedication for the renaming of the East Whitehouse Open Space area. Margaret has passed along an official invitation to the committee.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Nancy moved that the meeting be adjourned. Sarah seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah John  
Secretary