

THE READINGTON MUSEUMS  
MUSEUM COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING  
February 3, 2022

Chairman Rene Rao called the meeting to order at 7:45 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, Joyce Lykes, Sarah John, Museum Director Margaret Smith, and Township Liaison Betty Ann Fort were in attendance. Committee members Nancy O'Malley, Mario Orlandi, and Helen Farrant were absent. A quorum of Committee members was present.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The minutes from January 7th were reviewed. Joyce Lykes motioned for approval, and Sheila seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**BUSINESS –**

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

**BUDGET:**

CHPP Grant: Received approval! Now we're waiting on the grant agreement to submit for approval from the twp.

HPG/Open Space grant: Margaret has submitted the grant agreement to the Hunterdon County Dept. of Planning after receiving approval from the Readington Township Committee.

**Additional Grant Opportunities:**

NJ Historic Trust Capital Level I Grant -Preserve NJ Historic Pres. Fund is a possibility. Margaret signed up for a January workshop in order to learn more, and will pass the joining information along to other interested committee members.

**PROPERTIES:**

*Bouman Stickney Farmstead:*

- Orchard Care: Spanner Tree came and trimmed some trees, and removed dead Ash trees from around the parking lot area.
- Screened Porch and Roof: Chris Pickell measured the house, roof, and porch, and plans should be ready soon. Once available, we can send our request to the SHPO for approval on the porch reconstruction and subsequent steps.

*Eversole-Hall:*

- Grant updates: currently looking into different grant options for the needed work.
- NJ Historic Trust Capital Level I Grant -Preserve NJ Historic Pres. Fund is a matching grant, and for that we would need more information about the true scope of the project.
- The committee agreed that we should seek out a civil engineer for more input towards our approach to the work.

*Cold Brook School:*

- Nothing at this time

*Taylor's Mill:*

- Partial exterior wall collapse. Betty Ann will bring it to the attention of the Township Committee, and Historic Pres will be taking a look at the structure as well.

**PROGRAMS/EVENTS:** past

- None since the last meeting

**PROGRAMS/EVENTS:** upcoming

**Upcoming Programming:**

**Lectures:**

June - David Reading -Local cemeteries and Readington descendants

July - Dana Bala – Cookbook over the centuries

August - Gregory Herman - Indian burial grounds on top of Cushetunk Mountain

**Hunterdon 300<sup>th</sup> collaboration: Website: [Hunterdon300th](#)**

- o Marcia Karrow, Chair from the Hunterdon Tricentennial Committee, or the 300<sup>th</sup>, would like to pair up with us to host two Stephanie Stevens lectures on consecutive Saturdays in August (one on the history of Readington and Dutch migration, and one on the history of the Dutch Reformed Church) and also host an additional *All Hallows Eve* program, perhaps October 16? The 300<sup>th</sup> has also offered to fund both programs. We have combined programming with the 300<sup>th</sup> for several years prior to COVID. They advertise, come with volunteers, and supply refreshments.

**Open House:**

October 2nd- Enslowes -All Hallows' Eve

The committee discussed asking local farmers for pumpkin donations for a share of the donated money

**School Programs**

Whitehouse School 3rd grade trips will be May 18th and May 19th, with rain dates for May 20th and May 23rd. (2 classes of approx. 35 students attend the first day, and 3 classes of approx. 45 students attend the second day.)

Three Bridges School 3rd grade trips will be May 25th and June 1 with rain dates of June 6th and June 8th (2 classes of approx. 36 students each day.)

**\*\* Since these minutes were recorded, some school dates have changed. Please reference more recent minutes for updated dates.**

**OTHER:**

**Art Series:** no updates

Minutes 2022 02 03

Our Girl Scout Tatiana Hinka cleaned all 150 of the letters that go on the Hall House sign for us in less than a week!

**ADJOURNMENT:** Sarah moved that the meeting be adjourned. Joyce seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah John  
Secretary