

THE READINGTON MUSEUMS
MUSEUM COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
April 7, 2022

Chairman Rene Rao 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 Rene Rao, Sheila Paciullo, Joyce Lykes, Sarah John, Nancy O'Malley, Mario Orlandi, Helen Farrant, Museum Director Margaret Smith, and Township Liaison Betty Ann Fort were in attendance. A quorum of Committee members was present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes from March 3rd were reviewed. Sheila motioned for approval, and Nancy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

BUSINESS –

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

BUDGET:

Rich submitted a request for inclusion in the May township budget for a Museum Assistant and capital assistance for the museum buildings.

PROPERTIES:

Bouman Stickney Farmstead:

- **Screened Porch and Roof:** Margaret just received specs and said plans will follow. Specs will be shared with the committee as well as Rich in email for bidding docs, and SHPO for approval.
- **Buildings/Grounds (Public Works):**
 - The committee discussed Ron Christy's figures and plans for adding and moving ground for creating a natural ramp. We decided to wait until after the roof work is completed in order to make sure not to complicate either task.
 - Driveway apron: work coming along Dreahook to divert water.
 - Bridge posts: Ron is seeking rustic looking replacement wood.
- **Clean up work:** The committee will be meeting Saturday morning to clean out the house for the upcoming programs.
- **Movie request at BSF:** We have a request for the house to be used to film a short movie. The committee discussed the restrictions that would have to be involved, and possible wear, and tear on the property, as well as other general time restraint concerns. Helen made a motion to decline the offer. Sheila seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Eversole-Hall:

- Margaret had a conversation with a Preservation Architect about EHH and possible grants. Also, Rich plans to have the town engineer take a look at the situation as well.

- House clean up: people won't be coming through the house, but there are loose floorboards/holes and other repair-related items. The kids might be peeking in the windows during the programs, so a clean out is still a good idea. Dates to be considered once the BSF is finished.

Cold Brook School:

- Nothing at this time

PROGRAMS/EVENTS: past

- None since the last meeting

PROGRAMS/EVENTS:

Upcoming Programming:

April 16 : Tour with the HMVA - Hudson Mohawk Vernacular Architecture members
A professional group of architectural researchers and historians. They have private architectural study tours once a month. Approximately 20-25 people are expected

April 28: Rain Barrel Workshop by Raritan Headwaters and Readington Water Watch

May 1: Traditional hooked rugs presented by local historic rug hookers (fiber artists), Lucy Walsh and Sharon Ballard. They will need all five -or more of our tables set up in the center of the barn to display their large rugs.

May 7: Stanton Men's Club Breakfast

Upcoming School Programs:

- WHS 3rd at EHH/Town Hall: **April 26 and 27**, with **May 13 and 23** as rain-days
- HBS 5th at BSF: **May 16 – 19** (the **20th** is a rain-day)
 - **Tin smithing:** This program will return in replacement of a soldier activity. The 5th grade teachers have been informed and remembered the program in the past. It will be modified to use the 5x7 sheets, as opposed to making the candle holders. Margaret was able to get 200 tin sheets from Home Depot. Rene has volunteered to run the activity.
- TBS 3rd at EHH: **May 25th** and **June 1st** with **June 6th and 8th** as rain-days

June 2: Ridge Gives Back volunteer day

June 3 Homeschool group will visit BSF. They will make a candle and tin punch design.

June 11 We have been invited again to the Hunterdon County Community day at the Hunterdon County Fair Grounds. The committee will review our calendars and determine if we have enough volunteers to run a booth this year.

Lectures: planned for the last Friday of each month

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 300th collaboration: Website: [Hunterdon300th](#)

- o Waiting for additional feedback on this collaboration for the Stephanie Stevens lectures

Open Houses:

October 2nd- Enslowes -All Hallows' Eve

October 16th- Enslowes- All Hallows' Eve (in collaboration with Hunterdon 300)

OTHER:

ADJOURNMENT: Sarah moved that the meeting be adjourned. Nancy seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah John
Secretary