

THE READINGTON MUSEUMS
MUSEUM COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
April 1, 2021

Chairman Sheila Paciullo called the meeting to order at 7:36 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, Joyce Lykes, Helen Farrant, Mario Orlandi, Sarah John, Rene Rao, Museum Director, Margaret Smith, and Township Liaison, Betty Ann Fort were in attendance. Nancy O'Malley was absent. A quorum of Committee members was present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes from March 4th were reviewed. Sheila Paciullo motioned for approval, as amended, and Rene seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

BUSINESS –

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

BUDGET:

CHPP Grant was approved in the amount of \$4,600.

PROPERTIES:

Bouman Stickney Farmstead:

- The TREX bench has arrived! Buildings and Grounds will install it for us.
- Now that the roof is on an agenda, it's time to look to future needed projects.
- The committee needs to look into having the ceiling materials tested and relocation of the office. The committee discussed looking into contacting the same company we used for the kitchen floor.
- Sarah made a motion to spend up to \$1,000 to test the ceiling materials. Rene seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
- Also needing attention is the addition of jack-posts to the porch for stabilization. Rene suggested contacting both Buildings and Grounds as well as contacting a contractor for an estimate, and then comparing and making a decision to move forward at the next meeting.
- Margaret will first approach B&G to see if the porch is something they can do, and if not she will reach out to a few contractors for estimates.
- The committee would like to revisit the idea of an egress (2nd driveway) to allow for better flow in and out of the property.

Eversole-Hall:

- Various committee members were able to visit the house and assess the various needs that have accrued. Of particular concern are the cracks on the walls, the peeling paint, soft floorboards, and rotting outdoor wood.
- Harry the opossum has been officially evicted from the closet and the holes were sealed up by Buildings and Grounds.
- Many of the issues seem to be moisture related. The back/side window needs a drip cap, and the gutters need extensions. Sheila may have some gutter extensions at home that she will bring to help with water diversion.
- The heaters are now running in the house, which will help with the temperature change and related moisture, and there is a type of paint that might help with some of the stable cracks in the walls.
- Margaret will research back to the original grant that was used in the original repairs to the house and see if she can find more details and information about that process and what work was done.
- Betty Ann suggested getting a dehumidifier with a hose that can be run out and away from the house without someone having to empty the bucket regularly in order to remediate some of the excess moisture in the air. Rene made a motion to spend up to \$500 for a dehumidifier. Joyce seconded. Passed unanimously
- The committee viewed pictures and reviewed descriptions of the issues and decided that we need to seek professional advice to help maintain/restore the house.
- Joyce made a motion to hire Michael Cuba to come and inspect both the EHH and the CBS to give us advice as to which avenues need to be pursued now and which ones need regular maintenance, seconded by Rene. The motion passed unanimously.

Cold Brook School:

Nothing to report

PROGRAMS/EVENTS: past

Nope

PROGRAMS/EVENTS: upcoming

Possible Upcoming Events—On hold for the present

~~*Sunday, June 6th—Native American Demonstration*~~

- ~~● Presentation could be held outside with reservations~~

We will try to reschedule the Native American Demonstration for either the fall or next spring.

The artist series idea is being revisited, looking into ways the presentations could be showcased in a socially-distanced way.

OTHER:

Hunterdon Land Trust Grant -

- The submission of the grant application was approved by the Township Committee and is now “in” and being reviewed.

Benches!

- We may have two additional donated benches coming to BSF!

ADJOURNMENT: Sheila moved that the meeting be adjourned. Mario seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah John
Secretary