

THE READINGTON MUSEUMS
MUSEUMS COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
August 3, 2023

Chairman Rene Rao called the meeting to order at 7:33 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, Sarah John, Nancy O'Malley, Joyce Lykes, Helen Farrant, Museum Director Margaret Smith, and Township Committee Liaison Vincent Panico were in attendance. Mario Orlandi and Sheila Paciullo were absent. A quorum of Committee members was present. A member of the public, Brianna Janoczkin, was in attendance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes from June 1st, 2023 were reviewed. Joyce made a motion to approve as amended, and Helen seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

BUSINESS –

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

BUDGET:

- **CHPP 2024 Application:** Margaret completed and submitted to Township for approval for the 8/7 meeting.

PROPERTIES:

Bouman Stickney Farmstead:

- **House Roof**
 - The roof is DONE!
- **Emergency Exit**
 - Vincent recommended arranging a meeting with Ron Christy to walk the grounds and come up with a plan of action.

Eversole-Hall:

- Fence restoration is complete, and now needs stain. Margaret will ask if this is something the township Buildings and Grounds can complete.
- Breaker has been acting up again.

Cold Brook School:

- Nothing at this time

PROGRAMS/EVENTS: past

- **June 4** Butter Cheese Making – 33 visitors
- **June 30** Organic Farming – 22 visitors

PROGRAMS/EVENTS:

Upcoming Programming and Events:

- **August 4:** Flag lecture - rescheduled from July 21
- **August 25:** Witchcraft lecture

- **September 9:** Eddie J and Danny A -Bluegrass and history of song

School/Camp Programs 2023:

Completed:

June 5,7: WHS third grade at EHH/Town Hall

July 6 Winnewald Camp: Two workshops from 10 - 11:15 a.m., candle making and tinsmithing.
Total campers – 20

Upcoming:

Friday Mornings at the Museums: August 11,18, and 25. August 4th was canceled due to not enough pre-registrations. On the advice of the Recreation department, the requested fee was raised to \$10 per child to be more in keeping with other programming.

Program ideas for 2026: It is time to start thinking about ideas for programming which would correspond with the 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution.

The Dorothy Stickney Art Series Program:

The committee received a request to use the barn for the NAMI Hunterdon Expressive Arts Contest in September. Without more information, the committee cannot approve or disapprove at this time.

OTHER:

Long Range Plan: The previous long range plan was from 2006. The committee will review and revise for the CHPP Grant at an upcoming meeting.

Movie Filming Request:

Brianna Janoczkin presented her film concept. She provided her back story, which ties into the inspiration for her short film. The Committee had the opportunity to ask her questions and review the timeline for the project.

The Committee reviewed pros and cons of allowing the filming around the property and in the house and barn. They also discussed creating a set of policies and procedures for any filming usage going forward.

Sarah made a motion to rent the Barn and Grounds to 1st Hour Productions for a single weekend of filming for a short unreleased mini-series pilot using the preestablished rental agreements as a guideline in lieu of an established film policy and fee schedule. Joyce seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT: Sarah moved that the meeting be adjourned. Nancy seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah John
Secretary