



WEST MILFORD HERITAGE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
October 10, 2023

PRESENT: Harry Bedford, Tonya Cubby, Thomas Decker, Kristen Koerner, Hans Niederstrasser
Kerry O'Brien, Robert Pawlo, Michael Van Hooker
ABSENT: Council Liaison Michael Chazukow

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- Current Utility Invoices: PSE&G: \$25.26, Rockland Electric: not available at this time, UGI Services Aug \$7.37
- Trust Account: \$29,184.84, plus interest for September (unavailable at this time)

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

- The September 12, 2023 minutes were unanimously approved on a **motion** by Kerry O'Brien with a **second** by Harry Bedford.

MUSEUM BUSINESS:

- Notices for re-appointment to the Heritage Committee were sent out. Tonya Cubby reminded everyone to respond to the Clerk's Office email requesting re-appointment.
- The Committee discussed WM Museum visitor numbers for September/October.
- Maintenance at Museum: Michael Van Hooker cleaned the gutters on the rear of building. Tonya Cubby indicated that they will likely need to be cleaned again once the trees drop their leaves. She also noted that the trees need to be pruned.
- Tonya Cubby indicated that she spoke recently with the wife of Mauro from the Lions Club regarding the display case that must be mounted on the wall so the artifacts can be displayed. She requested that Mauro reach out to her whenever is convenient for him to meet.

MISCELLANEOUS:

- Apshawa School Visits – The first week of December dates have been requested. Tonya Cubby noted that the date for the visit will be confirmed by the Police Department and the school.
- The 190th Anniversary Booklet is still in need of final editing work.
- The Committee will be decorating the Museum for the holidays on Saturday, Dec 2, starting at 10am.
- Publicity/Press Release: Kerry O'Brien will draft a press release for the upcoming holiday/December events at the Museum, including pinecone and gingerbread cookie decorating on Dec 9 & 16.
- Tom Decker is preparing a Postville Exhibit for the Museum.
- Recent donations/inquiries: Request for information – Request received for use of the Museum's flat map file cabinet for Wallisch documents. Tonya Cubby will respond indicating for them to check with the Township to see if the DPW has a map cabinet they can share for Wallisch to store their documents in. Request was received for display cases for the proposed Bloomingdale Museum. The Committee discussed that we have a flat case in the back that we can likely donate to the group.
- Betsy ?, the secretary from the WM Presbyterian Church, is looking for information concerning those buried at the church. Jim Van Hooker's sons had donated some information that Jim had concerning the graves. Tonya Cubby indicated that we did not have any information other than the book Dust to Dust and the catalog on the Presbyterian Church prepared by Jim Van Hooker.

- Michael Chazukow indicated via email that he and Kerry O'Brien have not yet spoken with Kelly Ruffel of Passaic County concerning the EDC map project and the funding they have available for possible grants. They are looking to schedule a meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The following items were reviewed by the Committee:

- The Wallisch Homestead – A Historical Investigation Report – Revised June 9, 2023. Kerry O'Brien put this information into a binder for the Museum.
- AASLH – Weekly Dispatches and Past Perfect Newsletter
- Ridgewood Historical Society – Annual Cemetery Walk – October 27 & 28, 2023 – Reservations required.
- Schoolhouse Museum in Ridgewood – Eyewear: Where Fashion Meets Science– Oct 19, 2023 – 11am & 7pm - Reservations required.
- Ringwood Manor – 2023 Holiday Events: Victorian Christmas, Holiday Concert (Enslows are performing 4 concerts), Fine Arts Sale – info@ringwoodmanor.org
- AASLH – Native American and Indigenous History Resources - \$44 for book, \$41 for ebook.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Kerry O'Brien reported that Ed Lenik will be at the Coffee Shop at Ringwood Manor on Sunday for a about his latest book. Hans Niederstrasser and Kerry are both planning to attend and will speak with him to see if he will do a presentation at the Museum. Discussed getting one of Mr. Lenik's about Native Americans instead of purchasing one of the AASLH books on indigenous peoples.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm by unanimous consent. The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 14, 2023, at 7:00pm.

Approved: November 14, 2023

Submitted by Kristen Koerner, Secretary