

Historical Committee
Minutes of the February 11, 2015 Meeting

Attendance: B. Diem, L. Franklin, B. Aldrich, B. Titus, D. Addario, R. Stomber, L. Stahl.

Presiding: B. Diem and B. Aldrich, Co-Chairpersons.

The minutes of the January 14, 2015 meeting were approved.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Barbara, Betty and Betse went to Heinz Otto's Memorial Service. It was a nice ceremony at which they received a photograph of the Arts Center taken by Heinz Otto. Barbara sent Heinz's daughter a personal thank you note. Lynn F. will send her a thank you note from the Committee. His daughter's name is Vera Otto, 5 Stony Brook Drive, Warren, NJ 07059.

Barbara reported to the Committee that she answered 12 questions that had been sent to the Committee from a Watchung student. Barbara sent the answers back to the student's teacher and left her phone number for the teacher to call her. Barbara also offered to meet with the teacher.

Betse and Barbara attended the Eagle Scout dinner and reported that it was a very nice event.

A luncheon for Betty Black was discussed; Barbara will call her Mon. to try to get an idea as to when would be a good date for it.

Barbara set up an appointment with Tom Herits to go over the price of a new tin ceiling for the Texier House. It is set up for Wed., Feb. 18.

The Committee had a very productive work session on Feb. 10.

Barbara needs assistance with a write-up for the Mayor's Newsletter. Lynn F. and Lynn S. will do a write up on the Collections Policy and then give it to Barbara.

Lynn S. will put the Collections Policy on the Watchung website.

FINANCIAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Lynn Franklin reported that our Borough budget is \$13.13. The HP computer and printer/scanner/fax machine cost \$572.46. The Watchung Community Foundation budget is \$14,267.56. There was a donation from the Yates family to the Historical Committee.

Lynn F. handed out copies of the 2015 budget and the Committee went over it. A motion was passed for Lynn to pass the budget on to Bill Hance.

Lynn F. reported that she attended the Somerset County Cultural and Heritage Committee Meeting and they will be having a quilting display. Quilts and wall hangings will be displayed and as long as you're from a group, you can display your quilts and wall hangings free of charge. Lynn F. reported that the county is trying to buy property by the old stone arch bridge; however, the landowner does not want to sell the property. There were 15 local arts grants applications submitted last year, but only 5 of them were granted. On May 9, there is the NJ History Fair at Monmouth Battlefield State Park.

Lynn F. advised the Committee that the Texier House will be cleaned the first Friday of every month.

LIASON'S REPORT

Lynn S. reported that Dianna was not able to attend the meeting. Dianna will provide her report at the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Rick reported that all the light covers have been put on the lights. The computer is on the desk but can't be set up until Rick gets the password from Dianna. The scanner/copier works.

The scanner the Committee was previously using was donated by Mary Cicarelli. Barbara will ask her if she would like it back.

Barbara talked about getting an entrance sign to be put by the back door so that people know where to enter once they have parked in the Texier House lot. She will look into getting a price on it.

Betse worked on the scrapbooks during the recent work session.

Barbara advised the Committee that we haven't heard from Maddie Quinn about her project. Sue gave some pictures to Maddie. Barbara will call Sue and ask her about the status of the project.

Barbara and Lynn F. will go to Green Brook Memorial Company to find out information about the ice tong display and the Veteran's monument. The Committee discussed getting a boulder from the area by the Police Station to use for the ice tong display. We would store it in the parking lot of the Texier House.

NEW BUSINESS

Lynn S. reported that Dianna sent an e-mail stating that Watchung is having an Easter egg hunt on March 28. The Committee decided to hold the date and decide if the Texier House would be open that day.

The Committee discussed the Strategic Plan for 2015 which was distributed by Rick at the last meeting. The Committee approved the Strategic Plan with the noted modifications.

Scheduling for the Texier House is as follows:

Feb. 15 – Betse, Barbara, and Betty

March 1 – Lynn S. and Lynn F.

March 15 – Barbara and Betty

The Committee will continue to have work sessions on Tuesdays from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for the rest of the month and during March.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Submitted by
Lynn Stahl
Interim Secretary