

Historical Committee
Minutes of the April 8, 2015 Meeting

Attendance: B. Diem, L. Franklin, B. Titus, L. Stahl, D. Beck-Clemens, Liaison

Presiding: B. Diem, Co-Chairperson.

The minutes of the March 11, 2015 meeting were approved.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Barbara reported that Tom Herits has not gotten back to her yet about the ceiling. She told the Committee that the DPW came and redid all the lights and fixed them so that there won't be a problem with the lights starting a fire. Rick will check the covers for the lights.

Barbara advised the Committee that we have letters for the word "Entrance" which will be put up over the back door as soon as the weather permits.

Barbara reported that Lynn F. called Maria about the cleaning of the Texier House; it was cleaned on Monday, April 6, 2015.

FINANCIAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Lynn Franklin reported that there is no financial report for this meeting because the Borough's computer is down. She will give a financial report at our next meeting.

Lynn F. reported about the last meeting of the Somerset County Cultural and Heritage Meeting. The Middlesex County History Fair is on May 31st from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Johnson's Park. She handed out other materials from the County listing upcoming events.

Lynn advised the Committee that the Somerset County Cultural and Heritage website is being updated. It will show pictures of the Somerville Borough Hall ceiling which was redone. The stained glass in the church was repaired. April is National Agricultural Month. The Teen Arts Festival is on May 13 at Raritan Valley Community College for high school kids. There will be a seminar on May 6th on how to recruit volunteers, how to keep them, and how to retire them. There will be a Flag Day Festival in Somerville in June.

LIASON'S REPORT

Dianna reported that various potholes in the town will be repaired. Repaving will be done. The gazebo has electricity, but the conduit was cut, so it needs to be fixed.

Dianna advised the Committee that she wrote to MOAA (Members of Armed Forces) to find names of veterans to be honored on Veteran's Day.

Dianna reported to the Committee about the seminar given by the NJ Historic Trust which was attended by Dianna, Lynn F., Betse, and Lynn S. Betse spoke about the idea mentioned at the seminar about having kids set up exhibits which brings in the kids, their parents, and grandparents.

OLD BUSINESS

Barbara, Betty Jean, and Betse have two posters that they had mounted. They left six more posters at the frame shop to be mounted.

Barbara advised the Committee that Lynn S. ordered, received, and framed a poster of Iwo Jima to be used in the WWII display.

Barbara, Betty Jean, and Betse have been waiting for the snow to clear to look at the rock to be put on the Stirling Road side of the Lake for the Ice Tong Project.

Betse spoke about the WWII project; she has approximately 200 names of individuals who served in the war to be displayed in the exhibit.

Lynn F. spoke about gathering names for the Veteran's plaque. Lynn F. and Lynn S. have been diligently working on researching the list to find all the individuals who meet the criteria for their names to be put on the monument. The Committee has to decide how to display the names on the monument; a smaller plaque or a large plaque. The Committee put it to a vote and it was decided to use a large plaque. We will have the Taps plaque taken off of the monument and decide at a later date how we want to use the Taps plaque.

Lynn F. spoke about her proposal to use the Veteran's Day Program in November to honor the veterans. If we have the program in Borough Hall, people could walk across the street to see the names on the plaque. Lynn talked about having a photographer at the event and doing a press release. Lynn F. advised that she has spoken to Tom Franklin and Steve Pote, and they both agreed on honoring the veterans that day. Veteran's Day is November 11th. The Committee voted on Lynn F.'s proposal to honor the veterans on Veteran's Day and the Committee approved it.

Lynn F. spoke about Memorial Day; she advised that a candidate will be selected to be honored.

The Committee unanimously voted to give the wedding dress that is hanging up in the Texier House to Script and Cue at Watchung Hills Regional High School. Dianna will get in touch with Script and Cue to make arrangements.

NEW BUSINESS

Barbara reported that no one came into the Texier House when it was open the day of the Easter Egg Hunt.

Barbara spoke about the Mobile Museum, and Dianna advised that we are not able to have it because we don't have enough people to participate.

Betty Jean told the Committee about seeing on the Warren Township Channel on TV some pictures that she thought were very nice. She wondered if Watchung could do a similar thing on our channel. Dianna will check with Shelini to see if we can.

Barbara told the Committee that Jean Flocker Miller called her to ask her about sending her the music from the Wetumpka Indian Love Song. Barbara accepted it and showed it to the group.

Lynn F. reported that she ordered two packages of archival sleeves to be used for pictures, since we have used all of the ones we had.

Scheduling for the Texier House is as follows:

April 19 – Betse and Lynn S.

May 3 – Betty Jean, Barbara and Betse

May 17 – Lynn F. and Lynn S.

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.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Submitted by
Lynn Stahl
Interim Secretary