

**Watchung Historical Committee  
Minutes of the October 16th, 2024 Meeting**

**Attendance:** Chris Vander Fliet, Don Monetti, Stephen Pote, John Guzman, Karen Jubin, and Emily White

**Absent:** Michael DeParto, Keli Leunes, Maureen Greenbaum, Tim Logan, and Bob Mayers.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. At the start of the meeting, we did not have a quorum to start. John Guzman and Emily White joined at 7:04PM, establishing a quorum. Minutes of the September 18<sup>th</sup> meeting were deferred for approval until the November meeting.

**CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT – C. Vander Fliet**

Vander Fliet thanked all who participated in the Weekend Journey in the Past event on October 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. He expressed how important the support was at a time that was very busy for the Committee and how much of a commitment the weekend event was.

Harvest Festival Participation – Vander Fliet also thanked all who participated in supporting the Harvest festival event.

Chris Vander Fliet thanked everyone who also helped with the Scarecrow buildout for the Borough Scarecrow Contest event.

Finally, Chris Vander Fliet thanked everyone who helped out at the Texier House Museum during the photography efforts at the Museum. This was a full day event and monumental effort. Many things needed to be moved around the Museum and then moved back after the pictures were taken.

Vander Fliet mentioned that final edits to the Gods Acre sign were passed along to the Borough and the sign is now in production.

The Borough newsletter was published, and Vander Fliet thanked the Committee for their input on the material that was included.

The Rescue Squad is honoring all Volunteer Boards and Committees at the Tree of Lights this year. The event date is December 7<sup>th</sup>. All are invited!

Vander Fliet reminded everyone to please leave a review for the Texier House Museum as soon as you can! Maureen G. sent around an email with links for members to click and review. The link will be sent around again. Any Facebook post should also be liked and commented upon to support the social media efforts that we are doing more of. Facebook does get the word out to many! Larger volumes increase visibility of Museum.

**VICE CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT**

No Report

### **LIAISON REPORT – P. Fischer**

Paul Fisher was not present, but Steve Pote gave a report on security at the Texier House which included a summary of a draft email for Bill Hance which will be sent in the coming weeks. The Key Fobs were discussed, as well the urgent need to change the code on the existing keypad at the rear entrance of the Texier House Museum. The code would be known and used only by a select group of Administration, Police, and Committee members. Everyone else would use their Key Fob.

The Borough engaged a cleaning service to clean the Texier House on October 11<sup>th</sup>, the day before the “Weekend Journey Through the Past” event. The Borough has struggled to maintain longevity and consistency with the cleaning services it has engaged.

### **PROJECTS/NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Scanning/Categorizing Scrapbooks – Maureen Greenbaum**

Maureen G. and her husband Howard are looking at scanners that the committee can buy that will help with the scanning of larger items for the Committee like the 120-page scrap books that were created by Cindy Scalera. Those scrap books are one of a kind and if they were damaged, they would be a great loss to the community and committee.

#### **Website Updates – Maureen Greenbaum**

Vander Fliet reported that Maureen continues to update the website and encourages all members to visit and support it.

#### **Whispering Leaves Scanning – Maureen Greenbaum**

Whispering Leaves have been backed up onto another hard drive and provided to Maureen to add to the website. It was recommended that Don M. work with Maureen on how he would like that page designed.

#### **Photography at the Texier House Museum**

As stated above, the photographer Russ DeSantis was given a copy of identified priority items requiring photographs of them (e.g., Bobby Thompson jersey, Eaton display, Tibby Witherspoon tea set, etc.). There were approximately 85 photos of artifacts requiring pictures taken of them, requiring extensive movement of objects and the deployment of various photography pieces of equipment, to maximize quality of artifacts.

#### **Foveonics Proposal (for Scanning Photos, documents)**

The Foveonics proposal was approved at the September meeting and the Committee now needs to reorganize the 4 main boxes whose content (mostly photographs, but also newspaper clippings, menus, post cards, letters, etc.) is being categorized and inventoried, in preparation for the company doing the scanning. The committee wants to make sure that the company does not have any confusion with the organization of photographs being scanned and that they properly scan the documents, so they align with the input from members located in the excel documents. A new date for another Scanning/Archiving Day was chosen to be Sunday November 3<sup>rd</sup> from 11am to 1 pm.

### **UV Shades – For back/front door**

Vander Fliet went to Home Depot to get quotes on UV shades for the Museum. The quote without a sale was \$528.64. The sale price was \$370.04. There are usually sales which the Committee should leverage when purchasing the UV Shades. There is also a \$130 dollar installation fee if Home Depot comes to install the shades. The committee voted (Motion Chris and second Don) to purchase UV shades for the back two doors, which currently is very sunny on the oldest photographs of Mr. Texier and the Texier House. The shade needs to be able to be well secured, since the back doors are the only way of entry/exit for the public. The Committee also approved fee for installation of shades by Home Depot.

### **Blue Star Memorial Stone**

It was discussed again and recommended by the Committee that the Blue Star Memorial Rock be repositioned higher but left where it is and not be moved to the Texier House Property. The Committee felt there is historical significance of where the rock has been for decades and should be left there.

**Video Proposal from Greg P. and Strix Media** – It was decided at this time that after extensive discussions amongst committee members that we would not pursue a video tour of the Texier House Museum.

**Sue Tucker Recognition and Potential Ordinance Change Considerations** – It was raised again that Sue Tucker be recognized for her years of effort and work on Historical. If bi-laws are “going away” (Mayor and Council decision) then an ordinance needs to be updated/created to create an “Auxiliary” member status and that it be presented to Sue. A three-year term going forward for committee members, instead of one year as it is currently, was also suggested it become an ordinance change. This will ensure that knowledge capital gained on the committee not be lost due to short tenure on the committee.

**Brook Hill Sign** – Emily White is working towards an approach for restoring one side of the Brook Hill sign. One side is clearly in better shape; efforts will be made to restore the one side.

**Trivia for Watchung Sign** – Mike Departo was not in attendance, but Don, Steve, and Chris will also contribute questions for rotation on the digital Borough sign. Steve Pote suggested that the electronic display rotate in 5 new questions every 2-3 months. The questions need to be in the font and color of meeting announcements (white on black background; answers in a different color) and that the font size be properly sized to be able to read questions/answers from a distance (again similar to Borough meeting dates which are updated and displayed monthly).

### **SCHEDULE FOR TEXIER HOUSE OPENINGS**

**November 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**November 17<sup>th</sup>**

**December 1<sup>st</sup>**

**The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 PM.**

Submitted by: Steve Pote (Secretary)

**NEXT MEETING: November 20<sup>th</sup> at 7PM.**

Attachments:

1. UV Shade information from Home Depot.

# FARMHOUSE WHITE



908-499-7194  
CVANDERFLIET16@GMAIL.COM

### WHAT'S NEXT:

- Customer Agreement Number: **H0906-454403**
- 1) Give us a call at 1-800-430-3376 if you have questions or
  - 2) Come back and visit this location to complete your shopping experience.

**TAYLOR**  
*Store Associate*

**Store #:** 0906  
**Address:** 1515 Route 22 Watchung, NJ 07069  
**Phone:** 908-222-7700

*Thank you for shopping with The Home Depot.*

All prices are subject to change. Customer is responsible for verifying product selections. The Home Depot will not accept returns for the below products.

Order Summary	
Products (2)	\$528.64
Shipping	Free
You Saved	\$158.60
Pretax Total	\$370.04

Promo Code THDSEP12\_SEP18 is valid until 09/18/2024

## PRODUCT SUMMARY

Windows (no Room Assigned) (Farmhouse White)								
Window	Brand	Product Name	Width	Height	Color	Item Price	Quantity	Total
Window 1	Bali	Solar Roller Shades	24"	66"	Feedback 5% Farmhouse White 48302	<del>\$264.32</del> \$185.02	2	<del>\$528.64</del> \$370.04

## DETAILED VIEW

Windows (no Room Assigned) (Farmhouse White)								
Window	Brand	Product Name	Width	Height	Color	Item Price	Quantity	Total
Window 1	Bali	Solar Roller Shades	24"	66"	Feedback 5% Farmhouse White 48302	\$264.32 \$185.02	2	\$528.64 \$370.04

Promo Code THDSEP12\_SEP18 is valid until 09/18/2024

## PRODUCT DETAILS

Option Name	Details	Price
Guaranteed To Fit!	Yes	
Window Name	Window 1	
Mount	Inside Mount	
Width	24"	
Height	66"	
Color	Feedback 5% Farmhouse White 48302	
Lift	Standard Cordless	\$55.23
Cordless Grip	Clear Hem Grip	
Fabric Roll Direction	Standard (from Back Of Roll)	
Valance	Contour Valance	\$46.03
Custom Valance Returns	No Returns	
Custom Valance Width	Standard Width	
Advanced Options	No	
Remake	No	