

STHS Board Meeting

Wednesday, January 8, 2014

Called to order by President Donneta Crane at 5:02 pm, The Eagle Diner in New Hope

Present: Donneta Crane, Beth Carrick, Stephanie Garomon, Elaine Crooks, Joan Fitting, Linda Kenyon, Robert McEwan, Charlotte Zanidakis, Melody Hunt, Marnie Leasure

Donneta Crane introduced Marnie Leasure who will be the chair for education & Charlotte Zanidakis will be working on obtaining grants.

Minutes of December 4, 2013: Motion to approve was made by Elaine Crooks and seconded by Robert McEwan; motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Elaine Crooks passed out the 2013 end of year budget statement, showing the balance sheet bottom line total of \$110,924.51 and the report on the New Years Day Brunch 2014 showing a profit of \$2,226.30 from the raffle and auction. 150 people attended this year's brunch which is up from last year's 120. Robert suggested we analyze how we realized this year's success with a follow-up meeting. Elaine & Donneta explained that there isn't much to analyze noting that we had greater number of attendees and did well on the auction and raffle. Elaine did not get to put together a full year comparison, so will present year end totals next month.

Elaine asked for a motion to approve her report, Joan Fitting moved to approve and Robert McEwan seconded the motion.

Website Report:

Beth asked that she be sent the content for "slides and widgets", if an event is coming up Elaine should send Beth the information for the chronicle. There should always be a replacement for a widget. The calendar of events for this year only shows the Brunch-since Beth will be out of town for two months she asked to be included on all e-mails regarding dates of events.

Schoolhouse Repairs:

Robert McEwan said the work passed inspections this week. He is waiting for all of the bills to come in. Locks should be purchased for the now functioning windows, all agreed. Brad Livsey will paint the eaves, lamps can't be worked on until spring and new lamps are needed. The cellar is now dry so we can comfortably store things down there. The gutters work. The window well should be covered to further keep out moisture. Robert said one will be installed. Elaine suggested we should consider blinds/shades for the new windows to protect the books from sun damage. The plastic Bilco door does not have a lock so Robert is trying to figure out a solution to the odd design of the door. The cleaning person did a great job and charges \$25.00 per hour. We will use her again.

Honored Citizen handling

Donneta kept the secret from Jacquie Griffiths but John was notified ahead of time. Question raised; should the honored citizens be announced ahead of time or not? Consensus of the board is our goal is to sell tickets, so we will announce recipients in advance so they can invite friends and family to the brunch.

Committee Reports:

A. Archives-Joan/Gwen

Judy Clarke, former librarian will be coming on as the new archivist-will be invited to board meetings. David Stewart may be donating a collection of books but is keeping them during the renovations.

B. Development-Melody

Melody offered a suggestion for a fundraiser-gambling night at Triumph Brewery

C. Education-Robert

-Robert thanked Beth for everything she has done and continues to do for the Historical Society.

-Robert and Marnie put together a handout for the education report discussing setting up a web based application for the scholarship process for Solebury School. An Oral History project will be getting underway with NHSHS CEC. Robert handed out an extensive Oral History Report. We need to establish a release form for interviewee's to sign for copyright issues. Robert is working on it.

-Elementary School students will not be permitted to visit the schoolhouse at this point because of handicap access issues. Marnie spoke with Mr. Silva from NHS Junior high school to work on ways to have a working relationship. Marnie is looking to having small groups not sponsored by the school to visit after school hours and use the schoolhouse as a research resource. It was discussed to allow Teachers and Staff to have their meetings at the schoolhouse.

-CEC: Robert discussed the Community Engagement Committee is February 3, Robert and Marnie will try to attend.

-Solebury School Scholarship: As there are few Solebury Township students we are discussing opening this to all Solebury School Students, to drive the profile of STHS to a larger group of possible supporters.

D. Events-Linda

The underground Railroad still needs a confirmed date-Saturday April 17 was set as a tentative date. The 2014 New Years Day Brunch was a success

E. Membership/Volunteers-Elaine

We acquired 4 new members from the brunch. Sent member solicitation to 42 non-members who donated to the appeal and acquired 7 new members.

We have a total of 233 members.

For 2014 Elaine suggests we solicit all households in Solebury since it hasn't been done in 4 years. Current members show membership expires early this year and will receive renewal letters shortly notifying that we are going to a once a year membership.

New Business:

We now have a case for the bowl!

At 6:25 Donneta moved to adjourn the meeting