

STHS Board Meeting

Wednesday, June 4, 2014

Called to order by President Donnetta Crane at 5:00 pm, The Schoolhouse

Present: Donnetta Crane, Stephanie Garomon, Robert McEwan, Elaine Crooks, Linda Kenyon, Judy Clarke, Charlotte Zanidakis, Melody Hunt

Absent: Marnie Leasure, Gwen Davis, Penny Armagost

Minutes of May 7, 2014: Elaine moved to approve and Robert seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Elaine Crooks

There was no Treasurer's Report this month

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Archivist Report-Judy Clarke

1. List checked off of books
2. Rivinus Collection-After Jesse Crooks goes through
3. Began archiving school materials
4. Map of locations of Solebury Schools-Ned has a list of schools and Beth is working on a map
5. Rita and Marilyn need to know their responsibilities and boundaries of volunteers during schoolhouse hours of operation.
6. The archivists will work on a list of responsibilities with our input. They will begin using a sign-in sheet.
7. They will use the guidelines used by Doylestown Historical Society's regarding the acceptance of donations.

Development Report-Melody Hunt –See Report

1. Melody is collecting information for the fundraiser "Painting with a Twist". To make it cost effective she suggests making it a series and holding them at the schoolhouse with a 20 person limit. We will try to get sponsors to pay for the supplies such as canvas's, easels, paints & brushes. Suggestion to charge \$30.00 for a 2 hour lesson. No painting experience necessary. Can be a BYOB or we can supply the wine. We can also give a brief history of the painting being used.
2. A committee should be put together to work on the fundraiser.
3. We can reach out to everyone through constant contact
4. Reach out to Pearl Mintzer, Dot Bunn, Lauren Travis

Education Report-Marnie Leasure-See Report

1. School Scholarships
 - A. Awarded scholarship to Solebury School student
 - B. Awarded scholarship to NH-Solebury student. Marnie attended the ceremony to promote STHS-Should we have a luncheon for honorees?
2. Walking Tour
 - A. Still working on possible Carversville cemetery tour. Will follow up.
3. School Liaison-
 - A. Nothing happened with first grade teacher, but had communication with next year's second grade team so hopeful something might happen.
 - B. Attended community engagement committee last week.
4. Schoolhouse Talks-Marnie wants to establish a committee-some ideas to discuss are:
 - A. The committee could ask Jesse to give a talk of his choice in the fall. But might interfere with him leading a tour at the Solebury Meetinghouse, should the Carversville Cemetery tour not work out.
 - B. Marnie is happy to commit to a talk in the fall about the schoolhouse.
 - C. Looking for the outhouse lady, anyone know where she is? Is she still in business?

Events Report-Linda-See Report

1. Underground RR
 - A. Bucks County Trolley scheduled 1:30-4:00 but ended at 5:30-All attendees enjoyed-guides were great! Ice cream and cookies were served at the schoolhouse afterwards.
 - B. Reviews of the performance on May 15 have been extremely positive, there were 150 attendees with a mixed crowd from many different areas.
 - C. Lemonade was served after performance
2. Next event- Picnic August 24, location is not finalized

Grants Report-Charlotte *See Report*

OLD ITEMS

1. Conservation Center for Arts and Historic Artifacts (CCAHA) application **accepted** focusing on Track 1: Preservation Needs Assessment
2. Application accepted by PA Humanities Council for Underground Railroad speaker.
3. Catalyst Center for Nonprofit Management-Conference on grant tips to improve grantsmanship skills-"Five Ways Grant Writers Can Communicate Better" June 9, 2014 \$30.00 STHS will reimburse Charlotte for her admission cost.

NEW ITEMS

1. Created a formal Grants Committee to oversee the needs and goals of the STHS and to plan a selection and submission of grants.
2. As of June 2, 2014 the committee includes: Elaine Crooks, Claire Donahue (Claire has grant writing experience), Marnie Leasure, Melody Hunt, & Charlotte Zanidakis. Everyone has in-depth knowledge of Solebury Township and the goals of the STHS and its educational/fundraising events.
3. Later in June-Review Avery & Byers Foundations with the committee for grant submission and to prioritize STHS needs. Stressing the educational purposes of STHS the requests would focus on current needs to implement our educational goals. This will not overlap with the next fundraiser raising money towards chairs, big screen tv, etc.

Membership Report-Penny Armagost-Not in Attendance but submitted a report-See Report

1. We have had 46 renewals of membership so far.
2. Elaine has suggested omitting several past members. Suggestion to keep them in a separate data base so we continue to have their information, should they rejoin again.
3. Pricing for the software is reasonable
4. Penny is working on a letter to the students at New Hope-Solebury and the Solebury School inviting them to have a free student membership until they turn 18. It would not include any of the discounts that paid members are entitled to have.

Oral History Report-Robert McEwan- See Report for more details

1. Many thanks to Beth Carrick as the website is now fully up to date with all past STHS and NHHS Oral histories posted. Beth did a great job adding to the text, editing, creating key word searches and organizing the fonts, colors, and sections in a way that frames the story of Solebury thru the web's content.
2. There are 50 interviews as of today, they consist of: 13 Artists, 2 Canal, 3 Carversville, 6 Farmers, 1 Music, 8 New Hope, 11 Solebury, and 6 Teacher Histories.

Next Steps:

1. Look into the Phillips Mill recordings purchased from Will Rivinus. They consist of Plays at the Mill and some interviews of Mill personalities.
2. We have 18 MP3's and if we want more there are about 45 plays that have been translated to MP3's.
3. Thinking the interviews with a few example of the plays, if the quality is decent. They will be good entries into our oral history web pages.

Building Report: Robert McEwan-See Report

1. Book Shelves-At the request of Judy Clark, our Archivist, we had the Sугan Road side book shelves remodeled to be adjustable to allow for more books of different sizes. Painting is in progress.

Action Items

2. Book Shelves-North side under the map-We need to purchase good quality, inexpensive book shelves to hold more archives as they are developed-ACTION-Robert
3. Cellar-Need to buy a dehumidifier approximately \$175.00-Basement is damp from rains this spring/summer.
4. Garden/Property-Robert called an agreed upon meeting with himself, Dick Carlson, Paul Flack, and David Benner to discuss a long term plan for the planting on the property.
5. Holly tree near front door needs trimming-Robert will organize members to do it.

New Business:

Moved around the table while having pizza to go over the chair reports and discussing how each chair can grow their area's of responsibility. Refer to Elaine's list of key points.

Donneta moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:30pm