

## HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

Sept. 19, 2018

**Attendance:** Diddy Addario, Maria Alberto, Seth Alexander, Chris Blackadar, Ralph Diem, Tim Logan, Dave Mobus, Amber Murad, Betse Titus, Chris Vander Fliet, Mary Ann Weber  
**Absent:** Betty Jean Aldrich, Barbara Diem

Councilwoman Maria Alberto was in attendance along with our liason Dave Mobus to report about the Ness farm property. Russ Leffert took down the barn and suggested that some of the wood might be worth salvaging. They found old voting cards from 1959. The silo next to the barn is in excellent condition along with the milk house which they would like to restore and save as a historical site.

Valley View's History teacher, Mr. Anderson, is hoping to set up a class trip in the winter or spring with his 7 & 8 graders to Borough Hall and learn the history and politics of Watchung.

**Secretary's Report:** C. Blackadar  
Minutes of June 20, 2018 approved.

**Chairperson's Report:** D. Addario

Diddy sent a Thank-You note to Steve Black and Maria Alberto for donating planters for our front porch. The professional landscaping for Texier has been completed and a special Thank-You to Betse and Ralph for planting, weeding and watering all summer.

The Borough Newsletter went out and the Historical Committee's article was included. There was a nice article in July 12<sup>th</sup> edition of the Echoe Sentinel about the Civil War Diary.

Betse took Gren Bunker, a former Councilman and long-time resident of Watchung, on a tour of the Texier House. He would like to donate pictures of old houses in Watchung.

Author and Historian Bob Mayers will speak at the next heritage Trail event on Sunday, September 23. We have copies of his new book. He is a great resource for the Historical Committee who writes articles for "Watchung Living" every month. We will try to keep in touch with him for future reference.

The Committee sent all needed materials for the County Grant. The County has released \$3,000 for the Mural project. Seth will try to negotiate with Materials Conservation before they start on the Mural since they don't need any money till they start the work. It will be \$8,000 for reinforcing the back and adding 6-8" border for tacking and hanging. There is no storage fee if they are working on the Mural.

It was decided to delay decision of the location of the Mural until the Borough makes some decisions about the building issues.

Chris Vander Fliet will receive a Watchung Hills Good Scout Award on Tuesday, October 2, 2018 to be held at primavera.

Betse represented Watchung at the SCC 4H Fair on August 9 & 10<sup>th</sup>, and Seth gave a wonderful speech about Honor Waino at the 9/11 Ceremony.

**Financial Report:** Mary Ann Weber  
\$11,079.85  
See Attachment I

**Liaison's Report:** D. Mobus  
No Report

**Other Reports:**

The new TV/screen, laptop, and new cabinet for the media room was researched. CVDF made motion to purchase not to exceed \$777 with Ralph 2<sup>nd</sup>. They hope to have everything set up by October 13/14 for our Weekend Journey. Ralph made a motion to purchase six recorders for our Weekend Journey for stories, Tim 2<sup>nd</sup>. There are extra copies of CVF's DVDs and copies going out to the council/residents upon requests. We received a Thank-You from Michelle DeRocco for her copy of the DVD.

The original Civil War Diary is in the display case with copies out for residents to look at. Charles Eaton donated \$100 to the Historical Committee.

Hannah Kerwin will take photos from various town events and e-mail to CVF for future reference.

Lyn Franklin sent her report and the minutes of the SCCHC. Pat McGarry retired, Kaitlyn Bundy is now manager, and Natalie Zaman is now full time as an assistant.

Amber discussed the plans, schedules, assignments, posters, and banners for Weekend Journey. It was decided subs would be purchased for Saturday and Sunday lunches.

The Liberty Tiles were relocated to the basement of the Texier House. The huge boulders of granite are still behind the Fire House under a tarp. Seth has some ideas on where to place the Liberty Tiles around town but will be discussed at a later date. Now they are in a safe place where they won't get broken.

The Committee received the forms for the Festival of Trees which is due by November 16. Betse, Chris B. and Mary Ann volunteered to help put and take down.

The Ice Sculpture project will be explored in 2019, along with the church bell. Discussion about using original beams from the Ness Farm for the bell.

Talk about filming Boy Scouts to recognize Matt King's "God's Acre" and display the book along with the film at our Museum.

Betse opened the museum on September 2<sup>nd</sup> with no visitors. Diddy and Chris VDF covered on September 16<sup>th</sup> with four visitors.

October 7 – Tim, Ralph

October 21 – Chris B., Betse

November 4 – Mary Ann, Amber

November 18 – Betse

**Other New Business/Discussion:**

Dave is going to order copper penny and white samples of ceiling tiles so we can decide which color the Committee thinks would look best in the Museum. It is estimated to cost \$6,000 not installed.

Dave made motion to adjourn meeting with Seth 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:30 pm. Next meeting October 17, 2018 7:30.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Blackadar

**BUDGET INCOME/EXPENSES REPORT AS OF SEPTEMBER 2018**  
**BALANCE**

Attachment  
 I

PETTY CASH  
**TOTAL \$263.10**

SAVE THE MURAL  
**TOTAL \$847.86**  
 (INCLUDES \$100 DONATION RECEIVED JUNE 2018 FROM G & D REILLY)

FOUNDATION ACCOUNT  
**TOTAL \$15,732.56**  
 (INCLUDES \$40 FOR BOOK SALES CASH)

OPERATING BUDGET	BUDGET AMOUNT	EXPENDED	BALANCE
BOOKS, SUBS, PERIODICALS	\$200.00	\$57.88	\$142.12
OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$2,300.00	\$375.02	\$1,924.98
GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$1,500.00	\$126.54	\$1,373.46
CONTRACTED SERVICES	\$7,100.00	\$654.76	\$6,445.24
TRAINING AIDS & PROGRAMS	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
COMMUNITY RELATIONS	\$1,000.00	\$105.95	\$894.05
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$12,400.00</b>	<b>\$1,320.15</b>	<b>\$11,079.85</b>