



January 2019 Meeting Minutes

Mr. DiCicco led the pledge of allegiance. Mr. Rebmann called roll. All officers were present except Ms. Matthews who had a conflicting meeting. Also attending were members Bob Penrose, Thomas Champion, and Fred Marz.

Mr. Gooch offered the treasurer's report. An additional \$33 was included in the account, donations at the museum from the Christmas House Tour in December. Total Sturdy Savings Bank account balance: \$3983.49. Mr. Rebmann submitted two bills for technology purchases and asked that these be paid from the existing balance from the grant. This included \$182.32 for toner cartridge and \$271.22 for ink cartridges for the museum's two printers. Both printers had exhausted existing supplies. Mr. Rebmann indicated that he had had donated the cost for one of the cartridges so payment was approved for \$395. Rebmann did not vote on the appropriation. Mr. Rebmann thanked Mr. Gooch for his thorough record keeping during the year.

The board voted to postpone setting meeting schedule for 2019 until Ms. Matthews is able to join the group at its February meeting. The members agreed further to set the date for election of officers for the March meeting. Mr. DiCicco recommended sending an email to all current members advising of the importance of attending that meeting in order to vote.

Mr. Penrose suggested sending out a sheet including names of current officers with space allowed for nominations from the general membership. Mr. DiCicco advised that nominations can be accepted by email but actual voting must be done in person, thus the importance of attending the March meeting.

Members discussed whether to schedule monthly or bi-monthly meetings. Mr. Gooch suggested, and members ultimately agreed, to schedule ten meetings with less busy months of July and August omitted (unless a critical need arises to hold a meeting).

Members also discussed which days and times are best for them for future meetings. All present seemed to prefer either Wednesday at 5pm or the current second Thursday meeting at 5:30pm. That will also be resolved at the February meeting. That meeting will take place on the 3rd Thursday, FEBRUARY 21 at 5:30 pm at he museum.

The group then discussed the ongoing 1772 grant application. Mr. Rebmann explained the current status of the application, noting that the grantor will decline the application unless the Friends can show a lease of the school house building from the township. In turn, the township can not grant said lease unless the Friends has a liability insurance policy with the township as an added insured party.

Mr. Rebmann explained his several unsuccessful attempts to secure this insurance through various vendors contacted directly and/or by email; finally culminating in obtaining a tentative approval costing \$1180 annually. Mr. Marz and Mr. Gooch felt that amount asked was higher than it should be, given the nature of the enterprise.

Mr. Rebmann further described the tight time frame involved as the committee next meets on January 22 and a copy of any lease agreement must be forwarded to the 1772 organization by January 31. Members were concerned about the specifications of any lease and felt that more time would be needed to evaluate and decide upon such an agreement.

Given the limited time frame and the expense required to purchase insurance, members voted down this proposal, noting that while it would be desirable to have grant monies, it should not be necessary in this instance as the township has already sufficiently bonded monies to perform the repairs/painting needed on the school house.

Mr. Marz suggested approaching township committee informally (at a work session) to ask about the bond and advocate that it be used to do the needed work. Mr. DiCicco noted that this might become the approach but advised keeping the matter as private as possible, via committee liaison Scott Turner, at least for the time being unless the committee request attendance at a work session.

Mr. Rebmann reiterated that he would like to see the township begin whatever bidding process it required in the spring of this year.

Mr. Penrose recommended an email sent to Mr. Turner outlining the group's concerns would be the best approach. Mr. DiCicco said that any next step would include RPO's to do the work.

Members discussed possible fund raising venues. Mr. Rebmann indicated that he and his daughter were working on a calendar (2020) that will be available this summer. Ms. O'Grady shared an example of a wood burned Christmas ornament she'd authorized through Etsy and suggested that a local wood artist might be able to produce a number of these items that the group could sell as a "limited item"

The board recommended that Ms. O'Grady pursue ordering a number of ornaments from the local vendor (100 ornaments for 2019).

The museum will try to expand its hours of operation to every Saturday from 9am-1pm with assistant curators O'Grady and DiCicco offering to fill in especially when Mr. Rebmann isn't available.

There being no other official business, the meeting adjourned.

