



January 2018 Meeting Minutes

Mr. DiCicco led the pledge of allegiance. Mr. Rebmann called roll. Absent with prior notification was Bevan O'Grady. Present were DiCicco, Gooch, Laughlin, Matthews and Rebmann. Also attending was member Bob Penrose and Rev. Fred Marz. Board approved December minutes. Mr. Rebmann will forward copy of the minutes to Mr. Laughlin to post on the Friends website.

Mr. Gooch offered the treasurer's report. Total Sturdy Savings Bank account balance: \$3252.06. One new membership application has come in after the December reporting period. No new expenditures or cash donations.

Membership updates for 2018 will be sent to all listed members. Several board members updated at the meeting which will be reflected in next month's financial report.

Mr. Rebmann reported that he has not received any money from the county grant (CMC Culture and Heritage) but expects to hear this month. Mr. Gooch will maintain records of deposits and expenditures of the grant and related monies. Mr. Rebmann will report to the county as per specifications.

There was discussion of several equipment donations. Mr. Gooch is donating a Hewlett Packard four in one printer that will be utilized at the museum. Ms. Matthews will be donating a computer from the ARC after that organization has received its new computers.

Mr. DiCicco discussed the by-laws and the need to have attorney Tony Monzo explain recommended changes to the original draft. The board agreed to wait until by-laws are in place before holding election for officers.

Mr. DiCicco will invite Mr. Monzo to the February meeting and Mr. Rebmann will list “possible approval of by laws” and “officers’ election” on February agenda.

Attendees agreed that the annual DHHOA house tour was a success for both that organization and the museum. Three board members, DiCicco, Laughlin, and Rebmann were at the museum to greet visitors while board members Gooch and Matthews participated at other locations on the tour.

Mr. Rebmann announced that Joshua Fox, museum collections manager and artifacts assessment consultant will visit the museum on Thursday, January 18, to examine the items at the museum and offer tips on how we can better preserve and display what we have. Members requested to have information about Mr. Fox and the program, which Mr. Rebmann will send. It was also agreed to pass the information along to the township committee, especially new committee liaison Scott Turner, as well as local media.

Mr. Penrose noted that having this type of evaluation might eventually help the museum gain accreditation, often a factor in awarding grants.

Mr. Rebmann also announced that he is entering into a publishing contract with The History Press (Arcadia Publishing) to create a book about Prohibition and how Cape May County lived during that time period, roughly 1918-1933.

Members indicated that they were ready to move forward with the group’s next fundraiser, which it was agreed should be held at Slack Tide Brewery in Clermont. Mr. Rebmann and Mr. DiCicco will contact the owners to finalize arrangements, for an event hopefully in April or May.

Rev. Fred Marz reported that the Dennisville UMC coffee house is up and running with performers scheduled for Friday, January 12 (Narrow Road from Egg Harbor Township). Members engaged in extensive discussion about a “Dennisville Day” type event involving area musicians that could be held at different venues in the vicinity (church, social hall, museum, senior center). Members DiCicco and Laughlin will continue to pursue this idea with Rev. Marz.

The Friends are also hoping to join Rev. Marz in organizing a bus outing to St George’s Church in Philadelphia, the oldest operating Methodist church in the world. Details on this outing will be shared with the friends and general public as they are developed.

Ms. Matthews suggested holding the February 8 meeting at the ARC office in South Dennis after members expressed interest in learning more about the architecture and history of the Falkinburg House. That meeting will be held on Thursday February 8 at 5:15 pm.

There being no other business, Mr. DiCicco adjourned the meeting.

