



September Minutes

Mr. DiCicco opened the meeting with a flag salute. Mr. Rebmann took roll. Board members DiCicco, Gooch, Laughlin, Matthews, and Rebmann were present. Board member O'Grady was absent.

Also attending were Friends members, Bob Penrose, Tom Champion, Rev. Fred Marz, Jan Haigis, John Haigis.

August meeting minutes were approved with changes suggested by those present.

There was no change in the Friends financial report from August meeting. Ms. Matthews asked if there was a list of GoFund Me donors available. Mr. Rebmann indicated that he can provide a list. Financial report from Mr. Gooch was accepted and Mr. Gooch provided a written report as well.

Mr. DiCicco indicated that the by-laws draft is being reviewed by solicitor Tony Monzo (in kind service). He hopes to have final recommendations for October meeting.

Mr. Rebmann asked about logo submitted by NetzSolution (in kind service). The basic design (see above) was accepted and will be used on future communications, etc. Mr. Laughlin will colorize the logo.

Updating the group on museum activities, Mr. Rebmann advised that the museum will host the Cape May Photography Club on Monday October 2 at 11am. Mr. Laughlin requested information for the website which Rebmann will provide.

The museum will also be working with Rev Fred Marz from Dennisville UMC on a number of local initiatives utilizing both the church and museum for public activities. These will include tours, movie nights, and breakfast meetings. An upcoming event at South Dennis UMC will be a Saturday September 23 concert by Vinny Martell of Vanilla Fudge fame. The Friends will help publicize the event and support it with their presence.

M=Rev. Marz noted that he has been meeting with a "Vision Team" comprised of local residents/members of the church and wants to include the Friends and museum in the planning process. Members agreed to participate.

In the next item of business, Mr. Rebmann thanked Ms. Matthews for setting up contact with Pat Raspa from Cold Spring Village. Discussing possible dates, member agreed that the "sooner the better". As a result, the Friends will hold their first fundraiser at the CSV brewery on Thursday, October 12 from 4-8 pm.

Members had a number of questions including cost of admission (none), food and entertainment (we can provide either or both. Mr. DiCicco indicated that he would be willing to perform as did the Haigis'. All are accomplished musicians with records of public performance.

The Friends will publicize the event on social media (websites, email, Facebook). Mr. Rebmann will submit a press release to local papers (Herald, Press, gazette). Ms. Matthews agreed to print up 50 flyers should the Friends utilize that option.

Mr. Rebmann mentioned a second fundraiser event opportunity at Slack Tide Brewery (Clermont) with whom he has been in contact. Members were enthusiastic about holding an event at a township business but all agreed that further action should be delayed until after the CSV event with a possible date in late November/early December.

Ms. Matthews also indicated that her employer, the Arc, has computers available that the Arc will donate to the Friends. Members agreed to accept them as an "in kind" donation from the Arc. Mr. Laughlin asked if there might be a "four in one" printer available as the museum currently has a printer only (no copying or scanning/faxing). Ms. Matthews said she would keep that request in mind as the inventory is conducted during the Arc technology upgrade. Mr. Laughlin and Ms. Matthews will arrange the details on transferring the computers.

Mr. Rebmann and Mr. DiCicco next discussed their meeting at Cape May County Cultural Heritage with Pary Tell about the Friends initial grant application. The Friends are applying for a

\$2000 grant. Ms. Tell led a meeting of all grant applicants during which she explained the process and went over eligibility requirements.

While disappointed that money from this particular grant can not be used toward building repair/maintenance (a primary goal of the Friends), Mr. Rebmann indicated there are a number of valuable uses for the grant funds (supplies, possible salary, technology purchase, marketing).

Mr. Laughlin asked if grant money could be used to upgrade electrical at the museum. Mr. Rebmann will pursue this with Ms. Tell.

Mr. DiCicco next discussed an informal estimate obtained from a township based painting contractor for painting the exterior of the museum. He sought this information to give the Friends a better idea how much money might be needed to redo the exterior of the building. Members and attendees reviewed the figures.

Mr. Penrose, who has extensive experience in both the building field and with small museums, suggested that, based on the “ballpark” figures in the estimate, the project might be “too big” to do all at once. He also advised that needed work would most likely be more extensive than simply painting the building.

He suggested considering doing one side of the building at a time, or possibly doing segments of work (for example: shutter repair/replacement or carpentry) with costlier painting job saved for a time when the Friends would be eligible for larger grants to help pay for such projects.

Other topics of discussion after the regular agenda included the Dennisville Homeowners annual house tour in December. Mr. Gooch recommended creating a “banner” or similar signage promoting the Friends. Mr. Rebmann noted that he is working on a “modest” version of that idea. Mr. Penrose advised to keep closer track of volunteer hours and visitors to the museum for grant purposes. He added that the Avalon museum has such a log that is used at the Avalon Museum. He will try to get a copy for Mr. Rebmann.

Mr. Gooch and Mr. Laughlin also discussed utilizing one of the donated (Arc) computers to run a power point presentation during events, museum hours. This will also be pursued once the donated computers are received and Mr. Laughlin is able to ascertain what upgrades are needed to get them operational.

There being no other Friends business, the meeting was adjourned.