



## December Meeting Minutes

Mr. DiCicco led the pledge of allegiance. Mr. Rebmann called roll. Absent with prior notification were Bevan O'Grady and Sarah Matthews. Present were DiCicco, Gooch, Laughlin, and Rebmann. Also attending was member Bob Penrose.

Board approved November 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: \$3250.54. No new membership applications since last meeting. No new expenditures or cash donations. Mr. Gooch indicated that Jack Connolly from Dennisville Historic Homeowners Association welcomed the Friends application for membership in DHHOA and waived the membership fee calling it an "in-kind" donation from one non-profit to another.

Friends received a complimentary copy of John and Jen Haigis CD. Music was recorded at the Old School House Museum. Friends will keep the CD at the museum. Mr. Laughlin informed those present of a recent recording session at South Dennis United Methodist Church (Sonny and Al). Mr. DiCicco hopes to do another recording at the museum in the near future, featuring a singer from the township. Members discussed using recently obtained technology grant money to purchase more suitable equipment for recording (camcorder). Members agreed to discuss this in further detail in the new year.

Members unanimously accepted these reports.

Mr. Laughlin raised a question about differentiating between Friends' activities and museum activities.

The Friends organization recognizes that the township owns the museum building and pays for its maintenance and utilities. And the Friends are "guests" at the museum. Mr. Rebmann as curator of the museum is a non-compensated township official and must distinguish between his

duties as museum curator and officer of the Friends. Several questions were raised about conflict of interest, particularly regarding financial matters. In particular, materials and equipment that are owned by Friends or individual members that are on “loan” at the museum to help facilitate its operation.

Mr. DiCicco suggested that new by laws, being reviewed by attorney Anthony Monzo, should clarify such issues. Among questions needing resolution include number of boards (Executive Board and Board of Trustees) needed to properly perform Friends’ functions and satisfy legal requirements. Mr. Penrose, who has prior experience in such matters, discussed how the issue was addressed. He also recommended that the board explore getting liability insurance. Mr. Rebmann asked about cost of such insurance and will research the subject to report at the January meeting.

Mr. DiCicco indicated that he will arrange a special meeting to finalize the by-laws.

Mr. Rebmann informed members that the group had been awarded \$1000 matching grant from Cape May County Culture and Heritage. The money must be used to purchase technology. He asked members to develop a “wish list” to consider once the money has been received. Items under consideration include: four in one printer, lap top computer, digital camera. Mr. Rebmann also included a microfilm reader with download and print capabilities similar to those available at county library. He indicated that he will contact the Library Commission to learn if it can provide any “assistance” in procuring such a device. (cheaper cost or perhaps using some of the Dennis Township library tax toward purchasing the device).

Mr. Gooch indicated that he may be able to donate a printer/scanner in the coming year as he is upgrading his current system.

There was also discussion about fundraising ideas for 2018. All agreed to prioritize organizing an event at Slack Tide Brewery in Clermont and will be listed on the January agenda for possible subcommittee. Other ideas discussed include: selling personalized pavers for the front of the museum.

Attendees agreed to set the 2018 Reorganization Meeting for Thursday, January 11 at 5 pm at the museum. Mr. Rebmann will send out email notification to members and other interested parties along with requests for 2018 dues. New boards may be elected.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned.

