

MINUTES WRIGHTSTOWN TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Monthly Meeting
Thursday, August 04, 2022

The meeting was held in The Meeting Room at the township building on Thursday, August 4, 2022 at 1:05 p.m.

In attendance: Betty Davis, Mary Lee Johnson, Jane Magne, Abby O’Keeffe and Jane DelBianco

Betty Davis, Commission Chairman, opened the meeting at 1:05 p.m. Mary Lee Johnson read The Minutes of the July 7, 2022 meeting, which were approved as read.

Jane DelBianco, Treasurer, reported Supply Budget balance of \$1,000.00. The savings balance is \$8,135.77 which includes current interest payment of \$1.38.

Old Business: The July Octagonal Schoolhouse Open House was attended by 22 visitors. The August Open House volunteers are: Jane and Mary Lee 1-3 p.m.; Abby and Betty 3-5 p.m. The September Open House is to be scheduled once we learn of Karl and Beverly plans. Abby is the only one committed for that day at this point.

New Business: Betty donated three children’s books from the current book sale at the library. Abby suggested we put them in the school desks. She also suggested copying some of the sensitive, old books, thereby eliminating handling them. The copies could be placed inside the desks.

Abby has scheduled the ‘Red Hat Society’ for a visit to the Octagonal Schoolhouse on September 17, 2022 at 1 p.m.

Abby will diagnose which plants in our containers were successful this season. Those that were not will be replaced with appropriate plants. She will then pass off a list to Karl for the purpose of designing and printing a brochure.

Abby suggested a new type of planter for either side of the entry door at the Octagonal Schoolhouse. She recommended creating planters the same size from stones. Also, she has experienced visitors needing a place to sit outside while they enjoy the exterior of the building. A little further information is needed before members can make a decision. Abby will come up with a few ideas.

An active member of the Wrightstown Elementary PTO attended the July Open House. She expressed to Jane DelBianco the opportunity for children to visit the schoolhouse. Jane Magne relayed the possibility of pulling a bus on the seven acre parcel, thereby allowing the children access over the wooden bridge to the school.

Betty expressed her concern with any planning pursuing to the 250th Anniversary of the founding of our country. She had a printout listing Rosie Rios, America 250 (Semiquincentennial) US Chairman. Further discussion is needed as to Wrightstown's plans.

Items previously presented on Karl's list pertaining to roadwork wrap up near the Octagonal Schoolhouse were communicated to Mr. Ketan Patel, who agreed all items will be addressed.

Abby expressed her concern for the Octagonal Schoolhouse roof. She will try to secure two bids, as will Mary Lee.

Betty was informed Dunkin Donuts made an application to demolish the former Rueter Realty building on Durham Road. She will contact Ted to make arrangements to visit the property with Abby.

Betty reported 'King's Oaks' on Worthington Mill Road, will be hosting the work of 28 artists from across the U.S., England, France, Georgia, Israel, Pakistan, and Scotland, featuring paintings, drawings, collages, ceramics, sculptures, and textiles, to run from September 23rd to October 9th, Wednesday – Sunday (other times by appointment). 'The Crossing', a chamber choir will perform Saturday and Sunday, September 17th & 18th at 4 p.m. at five locations on the property: the barn, the creek, the old chapel, the field & the garden, where food will be served.

Mary Lee has completed the folders on our National Register of Historic Properties. They now have a title page indicating the official name, tax identification, physical location and chain of title.

She has advertised the Octagonal Schoolhouse Open House for August in the publications we have on file.


Lastly, Betty has placed the paperwork pertaining to the 'Guide to the Manuscript Collection' in a three ring binder.

Members were introduced to the new township manager, Stacey Mulholland.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 1, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. in the Township Building.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of Beverly H. Wilson, Secretary


Mary Lee Johnson