

Haverford Township - Friends of the Grange

Meeting: Tuesday, January 04, 2024

Time: 6:35 p.m.

Location: 143 Myrtle Ave, Havertown PA 19083 - drawing room of the Mansion

Meeting Minutes

The Board of Managers Meeting was called to order by President Kathy Parkinson Rastatter, at 6:35 P.M. in the drawing room of the Mansion.

PRESENT :

Bill Parkinson, Scott Selkowitz, Richard Miller, Jeanine Rastatter, Chris Madden, Sandy Oslavsky, Hazel Delikatny, Fran McGarrity, Kathy Owsik, Katarina Stojovic, Joe Rastatter, Chad Brooks, Conor Quinn, Cathy DiGirolamo, Debbie Cipolla, Bev Rorer and Gerry Hart, Jim Petrokubi

The Minutes from the November meeting were on the table to all pick up and go over for the beginning of the meeting. While looking over the minutes from November, Kathy P. began the meeting with a little "intro" - she talked about someone that she looked up to - "You must meet the wants of the age" - she said. She went on to say, "As I sit up here and represent the Grange Estate, I will tell you that I am not perfect, but as we begin a New Year, we must look upon one another with grace and respect. Professionalism and respect is of the utmost importance.

The minutes were read by all, and there was a couple corrections that needed to be made:

Debbie Cipolla was present, the date of the Winterfest was incorrectly written as December, and should have been November. Also, there was mention made that Fran McGarrity and Kathy Owsik's motion from the last meeting was missed.

Bill Parkinson motioned to approve the November minutes and Sandy Oslavsky seconded, all were in favor.

Treasurer's Report:

Jim Petrokubi welcomed all for the New Year and began by saying that the operating balance as of December 31, 2023 was \$111,448.00. He also stated that as of year's end, there was a \$1085.35 profit from June 2023 -December 2023. Total funds as of the end of the year is \$330,085.00 - total checking account funds are \$153,343.00. Total donations were \$5840.00.

Bill Parkinson asked about investing some of the cash into something more profitable. Jim noted that he was looking into equities, mutual funds and will be contacting Merrill Lynch.

Strategic Planning:

Scott Selkowitz made note of “thanks” to our Treasurer, Jim Petrokubi for getting everything in order to line up for the fiscal year. He had a lot to do to make sure we are current on all of our tax information.

In early February, Scott noted that we will be following through with the steps for approval for the By-Laws. It will go before the Executive Committee and then will go on to the Board of Managers and then on to the Township. The Township passed an ordinance 50 years ago, and we want the solicitor to review, and to be able to see the revisions – and at that time, it will come back to the Board of Managers for all to note and then approve.

One of the next areas to address will be “membership”.

Hazel Delikatny will be forming a committee to help out with the “tending” of the gardens. There has been many restorations in many areas of the Grange. We need to set up a plan – for people to volunteer and help. It would be beneficial for all, if we had a plan moving forward.

There was also a number of discussions about having a “Gala” for the 50th Anniversary of the Grange. We would like to get this up and running so we can all celebrate 50 years. Scott will be forwarding an email to all, to look for committees for the Gala.

Scott also send out an email regarding our Insurances. The Township added the Grange to its general liability insurance at no additional charge to the Grange. We will need to retain a rider to the insurance policy.

Nominating Committee:

Kathy Parkinson asked Kathy Owsik is she would run the nominating committee. She turned down the offer at this time. Nominating for the officers will convene in January for May 2024.

Electronic Payments:

Kathy Parkinson is looking into credit card payments – she will be making some calls this month and hopes to have some positive results for us in the February BOM meeting.

Holiday Season:

Bill Parkinson gave us highlights and goodies from the trains – this year brought many donations and many records along with it. It was quite a success and we still have one week to go. There are currently 16 very active volunteers.

Winterfest and Holiday Events:

Kathy P. asked Nancy to put together a report on both events – there was a profit of \$6,601.00 – great job and much thanks to all who helped out. There was also \$1,105.00 collected during Winterfest for tours – this was the first year we charged and it was a success.

House:

Debbie Cipolla thanked all for the help with the trees. It was quite a job for all, but turned out beautiful and added so much to the Grange.

Holiday Party – was also a success, with approximately 50 people in attendance. Good festive time had by all.

Trees:

Tick Miler noted that he would love to tag the trees that we are taking down. He also mentioned that we should take a look at the cedar trees that are now leaning towards the tenant's house. If the trees are removed, he felt that it is always good to replace them with the same kind of tree.

Haverford Adult School:

we received a request from them to see if Monday afternoons in April would be a good time for them to have their classes. Kathy P believes that that time frame will be fine but said that we will need to charge them for the Monday night that they are looking for. By April 1st, you can use the Carriage House but not the Mansion. The “Evenings at the Grange” which were published through the HT Adult School, were both well attended. We will need to charge enough to cover our cost for the wine/cheese.

We will no longer be doing the summer camps.

Pandora's Garden:

Jeanine R. said that she did hear from them, and they are planning on coming back this year. It was thought to put together some literature this year to give to the parents, so they are able to give back to the Grange.

Projects:

We would like to take a look at the driveway as a capital project to improve the driveway – the condition of it presently is poor. It is getting worse with time. The trees are also overgrown as you come in. We have also looking into the maintenance of the Carriage House as a capital project.

Bees:

Hazel said that the bees are all doing well. Everything seems good with them. We are going to interested bee people to come into the Spring House to ask questions and to learn about the bees. They can look at the hives – and It was also noted during the meeting that Fran McGarrity was not able to vote – Fran Mc and Kathy Owsik advised the Board that past presidents have always been able to vote on issues. Fran made note of the corporate structure and how it shows the people involved with corporate structure, governing body of the corporation – these are the body's involved – which includes herself as an advisor to the Board and she should be able to pass her vote on issues at hand.

It was decided to take this up at the next meeting and we will all vote on.

Meeting was adjourned at 8 PM. Motion was made by Bill Parkinson, seconded by Joe Rastatter. All approved.

Next Board of Managers meeting will be held in the Mansion on Thursday evening, February 1, 2024 at 6:30 P.M.

Next scheduled BOM meeting will be held, Thursday, January 4, 2024.