

North Brunswick Historical Society

Minutes of the Board of Trustees, January 31, 2017

Present: Michael Hritz, President; Connie Adamo, Vice President; Richard Liguori, Treasurer; Nansi Krauss, Secretary, Janice Larkin, Trustee, Jeanne Selby, member.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:37 pm by President Michael Hritz.

Mr. Hritz welcomed Jeanne Selby to the meeting.

Approval of Meeting minutes: July, 2016 minutes approved with a motion by Mr. Liguori and seconded by Ms. Larkin. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

Mr. Liguori presented a summary financial statement which an ending balance in all accounts of \$7,570.58. Debits included payment to Margaret Newman, historian, the final amount of \$1,500; Double D painting for the exterior painting and related activities for \$19,000; Princeton Online \$114.95 for our website domain registration (northbrunsickhistory.org); and \$106 for the post office box.

Credits include grants from PSE&G for \$3,000; Middlesex County Cultural Heritage Commission for \$551; Book sales of \$60; NJ Historic Trust grant balance of \$750; Responses from a recent fundraising letter netted \$4,150 which includes \$2,500 from the Campbell Foundation.

Project Updates:

The John Buckelew House at The Pulda Farm

Double D painted completed the exterior painting with the exception of a spot that they need to complete. The front and rear porches, not of any historical value, were demolished by volunteers Michael Winkler and his son, Bryan. AW Hobar & Co. paid to dispose of the construction materials. The Township of North Brunswick capital improvement fund paid to have the roof on the one and half story part of the house replaced. A potable water connection to the basement is installed and completed by American Water via the Township. Water still needs to be run throughout the house itself. Jeanne Selby volunteered her husband's expertise to produce plumbing and heating estimates moving forward. Electric is working throughout the house with the work done by R. Caruso & Sons. Heat throughout the house is much more complex. Mr.

Hritz suggests that the next round of grants should focus on rebuilding the chimney.

Historical Markers

The three locations we will focus on for installation of the historical markers are:

- John Buckelew House at the Pulda Farm
- The Pulda Farm
- National Music String Company

Archives

Connie Adamo and Michael Hritz have worked very hard to cull and separate and categorize the huge amount of materials in the archives. Ms. Adamo is appropriately dubbed a "Super Trustee" because of the amount of time and effort she has invested in this project. From 18 boxes of unsorted materials, it's down to 4. All items are being categorized and entered into a spreadsheet, which will ultimately be available on the Society's website. Items are now separated, labeled, color coded, and larger items such as the Game of North Brunswick, are stored and recorded.

Old Business

Mr. Hritz contacted Whole Foods about their philanthropic efforts. They have two programs, 5% day, where 5% of proceeds go to a local non-profit and the Nickel for Nickel program, in which change is collected and Whole Foods matches the donation. The latter seems to be the program for which we would qualify. His contact at Whole Foods said they would let us know when and if it will be our turn at the Nickel for Nickel program.

New Business

- 50/50 raffle: The Society needs to send the State a sample ticket and they will give us a number that we need to include on the tickets. A quote will be received from Mariano Press for the tickets. The group decided to call it the "Summer Vacation" raffle. All tickets will be \$10 each and will be drawn at the July 4th week Township Council meeting.
- Website: Princeton Online Design will be the hosts and designers for a fee of \$2,500. The annual cost to host the site is \$300. The domain name registration is \$157 for 5 years. Mrs. Adamo made a motion, seconded by Ms. Larkin, to enter into a contract with Princeton Online Design as our website vendor. The motion passed unanimously. Nansi Krauss and Mr. Hritz will follow up with the vendor on the design and content suggestions.

Mr. Liguori made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Adamo, at 8:43 pm.