

Brooklyn Historical Society
Annual Meeting Minutes
July 23, 2016
Brooklyn Township Building

CALL TO ORDER:

As authorized by the society by-laws Mr Richard Zick Sr. is appointed Vice President and conducted the meeting, leading all attendees performing the Pledge of Allegiance. Following this, Paul Gere provided some inspirational words to start the meeting. David Palmer spoke of the efforts of the society in the past year as being above and beyond that, which would normally be expected of such a small grassroots organization. All are to be commended for their efforts, especially regarding the celebration of the Martins Creek Viaduct 100th birthday. Attendance roster was passed around so as to allow all attendees, including guests to register.

SECRETARY REPORT:

David Palmer announced that Joan Kamansky had resigned from this position and was standing by to provide a new Secretary a pass down of responsibilities and particulars of the position. David also reported that Debbie Chidester had performed an audit on the Treasurer's books as per normal business protocols and in accordance with our Charter and By-Laws. Debbie reported all is well and that only a few minor findings were noted and easily fixed.

TREASURER REPORT:

Nancy Bruce provided the Treasurer report and noted it was in keeping with the recent audit conducted by Debbie Chidester. Nancy submitted her resignation as Treasurer due to health reasons making it difficult for her to comply with the position responsibilities, without significant help. Joan Kamansky has been that significant help. Both these resignations/retirements are accepted with sorrow. On a motion by Barbara Kelly and seconded by Richard Zick Sr., the Treasurer's report was accepted by unanimous vote.

OLD BUSINESS:

Placement of historic signs

Richard Zick Sr. reported on the status of the placement of the 1812 monument and first log cabin signs in the township. Unfortunately the property owners are reluctant to allow the signs for liability reasons and or cannot be reached. Mr Zick reported that another land owner is being approached and he (Chad Hollenbeck) has reached out to his attorney to inquire about liability issues, if any.

Richard Zick Sr. also reported that one of the historic signs near Zick Hill had been defaced to the extent that the verbiage was no longer discernible. Richard Zick Jr. offered that he thought he had a picture of this sign with the verbiage and would pass it on. The Catlin Road sign that has been lost will be replaced by Curtis Stone and Jim Fluck.

Submission to National Historic Registry

David Palmer reported that he recently received a letter from the Pennsylvania Museum Commission regarding the effort to place the Martins Creek Viaduct on the National Historic

an action in the early 1990s that identified a number of transportation related structures in the county that are eligible for this honor. Martins Creek Viaduct is one of those. David advised that he, Patricia Darcey and Gene Franklin (Harford Historical Society) are working this effort. They also are conferring with the guidance office at Mt View High School to entertain any students that would be interested in joining this effort. The process is primarily on-line, but will require some old fashion foot work, such as research at Steamtown National Historic Site's Archives. Further progress reports will be provided at subsequent meetings.

RailRiders Baseball Game

David Palmer also reported on the status of ticket sales for the RailRiders baseball game on July 24, 2016. A total of 50 tickets have been sold, of the original 100. The unsold 50 tickets have been returned to the RailRiders front office, per the agreement. Thus the society has realized a profit of \$250 from the sales of these tickets. All ticket holders are looking forward to the game tomorrow.

NEW BUSINESS:

Inventory:

Richard Zick Sr. reported on the inventory of publications and memorabilia. The society is currently sitting on approximately \$3,000 in inventory (cost); including primarily the trains from last year's bridge celebration. He also reported that he had recently ordered another 100 of the Martins Creek Viaduct Commemorative Book authored by John Darcey. Some improvements have been made to the binding and some other minor editing. The books continue to sell well, including at Peoples Security and Trust in Hop Bottom, Jenny Leigh's Country Kitchen in Kingsley and Tall Pines Woodstoves in Brooklyn. He encouraged all to fill your shopping bags with many of these items that are available here today, at this meeting, after some discussion of process, Patty Button motioned and Paul Gere seconded the motion to reduce the prices on the model commemorative trains to \$15 each and \$5 each for the Christmas ornaments. The motion carried unanimously. Nancy Hunter offered to inquire with the Montrose Blueberry Festival that is conducted by the Susquehanna County Library, to see if they would allow the society to sell its publications and memorabilia at its upcoming event. She will follow-up with Richard Zick Sr. on this issue. Further discussion led by Richard Zick Sr. revolved around the recent publication of the Kopleman book, a copy of which has been donated to the society. Also discussed was the status of the signs from the bridge celebration last year. One had been donated to the Brooklyn Township Supervisors, the other to the Nicholson Heritage Association. Discussion also took place on the need for a more permanent and environmentally suitable place for much of the society's archives and collection.

2017 Year Theme:

David Palmer offered that 2017 would be the 100th anniversary of the entry of the United States in the war to become known as World War I. David had ran across a large amount of interesting history n World War I and Susquehanna County's role in it, while researching for the bridge centennial celebration last year. He felt that would be a great theme to pursue in 2017 i.e. World War I and Brooklyn. It was also noted that 2017 will be the 30th anniversary of the forming of the Brooklyn Historical Society and that should be celebrated as well. A committee of David Palmer, Richard McKnight and Brian Palmer will pursue the World War I theme further.

Artwork donated to the Society

Russell Tiffany, son of Marie Tiffany presented a painting to the society at the bequest of his

appeared to resemble the Effie Potter property. Further investigation will be necessary to confirm. David Palmer noted that the Potter farms as well as the Cliff West farm in the southern part of the township are to be torn down to provide for natural gas pumping stations, in the near future. David has recently taken some pictures of those properties for historical purpose and will be placing them on the society's Face Book page. David also presented a painting of the Cliff West house and property donated to the society by a local artist- Rip Howard of Hop Bottom.

Summary of Internship Program 2016

David Palmer provided a written summation of this program and it is attached to these minutes as part of the official record.

Recognition of deceased residents of Brooklyn Township

Discussion noted the names as being noted in the recent publication of the annual report of the society. A copy is included as an official part of these minutes.

Web Site Renewal

David Palmer reported that the web site domain name maintenance will be due in October and will be accomplished with the help of web site manager Richard McKnight.

Insurance Cancellation

Richard Zick Sr. reported that he had received a renewal from DGK Insurance for the insurance rider the society had procured last year for the bridge celebration activities. Richard advised DGK Insurance that no such event was being conducted this year, thus the coverage was no longer needed and cancelled.

Officers/Trustees Appointments

A number of resignations and retirements over the past year have necessitated the need for bringing on new volunteers for various positions. It was noted that Jack Thomas of Brooklyn had offered to fill the role of Treasurer of the Society. Additionally, Jacqueline Thomas has submitted her name to be considered for Membership Secretary. Nominations for these two offices were opened to the floor. There were no additional names offered. On a call by the President for a show of hands for these two names/positions a clear majority was noted and accepted. Discussion also took place on the separate position of Secretary. Consensus was that this position was redundant with the position of Membership Secretary and should be combined. This act will be formally complied with at the fall 2016 meeting. Meanwhile, the position of Secretary will be unfilled and those responsibilities' assumed by the Membership Secretary.

Following further discussions it was approved by unanimous show of hands that the following would be seated/approved:

Further that, Mr Jack Thomas, Mrs Jacqueline Thomas, Mr Richard Zick Sr. Mr David Palmer and Ms. Patty Button are authorized signatory on any documentation required by the banks that hold the societies funds. Mr Curtis Stone will also remain as an authorized signatory on such documentation.

Publications and Reports Trustee -
Family Histories Trustee -
Arts, crafts, memorabilia Trustee -
Financial Affairs/Audit Trustee
Treasurer
Membership/Secretary

Mr Curtis Stone
Ms. Gwen Diaz
Mr Richard Zick Sr.
Ms Patty Button
Mr Jack Thomas
Mrs Jacqueline Thomas

Fall Meeting By-Laws Committee

In order to update the society's by-laws to conform to current realities, it was felt a committee should work to update said by-laws. That committee shall include David Palmer, Brian Palmer, Richard McKnight and Gwen Diaz. Any and all others are invited to participate. Meeting details will be announced by David Palmer.

Establish fall meeting date

TBD

Guest Speaker Presentation

Mrs Karen Voigt, Superintendent of Schools at the Mountain View School District, Kingsley Pennsylvania was the guest speaker. Mrs Voigt's presentation discussed the place and legacy of community schools and their importance in providing connection for young people to their communities. A summary of her presentation is attached as part of this record.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4 PM on a show of hands. It followed with a lovely reception of snacks and beverages provided by Mrs Patricia Zick

Very Respectfully,

DAVID J PALMER
President
Acting Secretary

RICHARD ZICK
Vice President
Acting President