

# Raritan Historical & Cultural Committee

## Minutes of January 8, 2013

**Attending:** Tim Rack  
Patrick Spirito  
Karen Eastlund  
Jane Fidacaro  
Adele Goetsch  
James Fidacaro  
Al Capetta  
Deb Thomas

1. We recited the **pledge to the flag**.
2. **The minutes** from the November meeting were reviewed. Al Capetta moved we accept them, Jim Fidacaro seconded the motion and all voted in favor.
3. Deb reported that we currently have \$675 in our **treasury**, plus \$30 just turned in from sales of notecards. We should be receiving our yearly \$200 from the town, so our total should come to \$905 once all funds are deposited.
4. **2013 Meeting Calendar:** We will meet on the first Tuesday of the month except for September and November, when the meeting will be moved to the second Tuesday. Dates are as follows:
  - February 5
  - March 5
  - April 2
  - May 7
  - June 4
  - July 2
  - August 6
  - September 10
  - October 1
  - November 12
  - December 3
5. **Hanging of Photo Displays** – Deb has placed photos in the frames supplied from KIA, and the frames were hung in the basement of borough hall while we meet. Thanks to Deb’s husband, Earl.
6. **Walking Tour Script** – no report
7. **Raritan River Event** – January 10, 2013. Dr. Judy Shaw of the Blaustein School at Rutgers will provide comments after the showing of a film entitled *Reimagining*

*Our Watershed: A Renaissance on the Raritan.* The showing will take place in the Janssen Pharmaceutical Atrium, Raritan, at 6pm on Thursday, Jan. 10. All are invited but requested to register with Don Christiansen, a member of Raritan's Economic Development Committee. Deb spoke enthusiastically about the various plans and possibilities that will be presented. She emphasized that Raritan Borough is key to this county-wide plan. Some ideas include bicycle races, a bicycle ride called Sculpture on Wheels that would include creative use of recyclables and riding through the Duke Estate, a flea market in the park area where we had Riverfest, etc. Committee members were encouraged to attend the showing.

**8.** Deb presented a **status report of our committee** at the end of 2012. See attached.

**9. Miscellaneous:**

\*The idea that had been suggested regarding having Ed Danberry fund the next calendar so that we could benefit from the payment for ads is not a go. We need to further consider Ed's offer.

\*Jim Fidacaro reported that there is a new display of historical books in the case at the Raritan Public Library. Frank Tropiano offered to display some of his collection of historic books. Karen and Jim helped put the display together. Please visit the library to see it.

\* We had hoped to hear about the possibility an elevator added to the firehouse by the end of 2012. There are grant monies available for Phase 3 of this project, which is to update the upstairs. (Measures have been taken to keep pigeons out.) We have heard no further, so Deb will talk to Stan Schrek directly.

\*Greg is our new liaison person with the council.

\* Bruce Doorly gave us a map of Raritan that was used for insurance purposes during the 1930s and 1940s.

\*Karen reminded members that our minutes are posted online on two websites:

[www.raritanboro.org](http://www.raritanboro.org)

[www.raritan-online.com](http://www.raritan-online.com)

\*Jim brought up questions about membership on the committee, who is in which class, why some people have appointments and others do not, etc. We need a membership list that delineates appointments by year/class, as well as alternates.

**10.** Jim Fidacaro made a motion for adjournment. Tim Rack seconded it. All voted in favor. The **meeting was adjourned.**

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Eastlund

After adjournment Kathy Reiner joined us. She brought some pictures to share and talked about memories. She remembered huge black birds on roof of the fur factory.