

Minutes of the Raritan History & Cultural Committee June 21, 2023

- Committee called to order at 6:35PM
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Members in attendance: Karen Eastlund, James Fidacaro, Tim Rack, Edward Ruzbarsky, Dave Fritzinger,, Joyce Tronolone, Jane Fidacaro
- Absent Members:, Gail Ostapczuk, Dawn Wilde, Mark Esposito, Frank Del Rocco
- Secretary's Minutes from 4/19/2023
 - Motion to accept. Seconded. All approve
- Treasurer's Report
 - Two expenditures: \$125 for storage unit and \$55.88 for publication of Raritan trolley information.
 - Budget remaining is now \$3889.12
 - Trust Fund has \$833.15
 - Monies for artist for new bench art and printing / installation on benches to be paid from remaining 2022 budget.
 - Motion to accept. Seconded. All approve.
- **Old Business**
 - All members have been sworn in.
 - Cornerstone update
 - Dave Frizinger proposed the possibility of displaying the cornerstone in the lobby of the new Borough hall when it moves to the old PNC bank building. In discussion phase at this time.
 - Benches
 - Jennifer finished both images for the benches. Both images are digital and will be sent to 8Visual for printing and installation.
 - Facebook Page
 - Jim and Dawn utilizing Facebook page and posting good posts.
 - Trying to share to various pages to get more traffic to the page and "likes"
 - Invite other people to follow the Facebook page
 - Fundraising Ideas
 - Dawn will work on creating the ornaments with the Committee accepting a motion on a budget not to exceed \$500.
 - Put Raritan History & Cultural Committee on the ribbon for the ornament
 - Since there is no street fair this year, we have received permission from the Economic Committee to sell them at their summer concerts on July 29 and August 26. Can still sell online or at the library.
 - Will discuss pricing at next meeting
 - Unveiling of the historic sign outside of the library – was a nice event.
 - Knox Porter original documentation
 - No further updates
 - Knox Porter Site
 - The banner has been put up though it is partially obscured by vegetation.

- John Guarino can create larger banners for putting up between the pillars
 - In the past we did the summer months (June, July, August). This year the management company has given us permission from June through September.
 - Have received inquiries regarding what the Frelinghuysen Mansion looked like, possibly including a picture on the banner?
 - There was a discussion on roadside markers, but several members thought that would be difficult due to NJ Department of Transportation having the jurisdiction/Right of Way.
 - Karen asked Committee members to come up with some ideas to enhance the historical significance of the site.
- Museum?
 - Building one building for multiple purposes. Pushing Council to incorporate space for the historical society.
- Books
 - Adam would like to have Ed Ruzbarsky's scrap books put on display at the library in the old Media Room
- Call from Boonton, NJ – Barbara
 - People are seeing our banners and are impressed and are trying to incorporate our ideas for their towns.
 - Tim Rack said he sees similar signs honoring veterans cropping up in more and more towns.
- **New Business**
 - The loaned Trolley display has been set up in both the library and the display case in Borough Hall.
 - The owner of the exhibit came to visit and was disappointed that we were not able to display everything, but thought that we did a good job considering our limited space.
- Meeting Adjourned 7:19PM