

Minutes

Raritan Historic & Cultural Committee

June 18th, 2025, Courtroom, 6:30pm

Call to order and salute to flag

In Attendance: Karen Eastlund, Jim Fidacaro, Jane Fidacaro, Ed Ruzbarsky, Mark Esposito, Gail Ostapczuk, Dave Fritzinger

Excused: Joyce Tronolone, Dawn Wilde, Tim Rack, Deb Thomas

Guests: none

Secretary's minutes

- Motion to approve as written. Seconded. All approve

Treasurer's report

- Budget: \$3497.92
- Storage was paid for on the 4th. Banner was paid for \$580.12. Paid for library program \$150.
- Trust: \$1199.15
- Motion to approve report. Seconded. All approve

Old Business

- Library programs
 - Paul Soltis: Thursday, July 10, 6:30pm – program on Frederick Frelinghuysen. Free of charge
 - Matthew Dodd: Saturday, Oct 4th, 2025, 1pm, Red, White & Blue
 - Currently schedule for Borough Hall; however, the Library room is now open. Will move to the Library
 - Saturday June 27, 2026, Songs & Stories of the American Revolution
 - Other Options:
 - Tim's Civil War program – possibly scheduled for November 2025
 - David Lang – The Battle of Bound Brook, etc.
 - Looking to book him for 2026
 - Alisa Dupuy
 - Larry Kidder – NJ Militia Presentation
- Tim to give program on John Basilone to Somerville Roundtable, Sept. 8th
- We will participate in the Basilone Parade on Sept. 21st, 2025
- Facebook:
 - Continual posts, good place to post about all programs
 - Posts on what was going on 250 years ago
- Knox Porter Banners:

- Larger banner will be hung after Festa banner comes down
- Smaller Knox Porter banner to be hung by NJ Transit over 206, will go up once Festa banner comes down
- Project ideas for the 250th anniversary of the USA
 - Revolution NJ – Town resolution? Or Committee?
 - Have the Borough of Raritan sign up as a Town Resolution instead of the committee. We should get the same benefits as individual sign up
 - Table the idea for next month
 - Get our programs more visibility and traffic
 - Virtual presentation from someone from Harding’s hometown where he campaigned

New Business

- Adam Armahizer interview about Knox Porter signing on Facebook page
- Report on visit to Raritan Valley Country Club
 - Picture of the photograph of President Harding golfing with Senator Frelinghuysen around the time of the Knox Porter signing
- Update on Benches
 - None
- Letters
 - Somerset County History on the Green – Exhibitor Opportunity.
 - Saturday 7/19/25
 - Won’t exhibit, but it’s an excellent idea to go to and see
 - Somerset County Historical Society
 - RVCC Grand Conference Room, 8/2/25 1-5pm
 - Set up a table representing Raritan
 - Free
 - Need to let them know by 7/18/25
 - Could we have ornaments done to sell by then?
- Proposed minivan tour for the “walking tour” of Raritan
- Other

Adjournment 7:15pm.