

Minutes

Raritan Historic & Cultural Committee

July 16, 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, Tim Rack, Deb Thomas, Dawn Wilde

Excused: Joyce Tronolone

Guests: none

Secretary's minutes

- Motion to approve as amended. Seconded. All approve

Treasurer's report

- Budget: \$3497.92
- Trust: \$1199.15
- \$1,000 due to Jen Guarino for town mural painting
- Bill for paints for mural. \$274 pending
- Motion to approve report. Seconded. All approve

Old Business

- Library programs
 - Paul Soltis and Connor Dunham: Thursday, July 10. Excellent presentation.
 - Matthew Dodd: Saturday, Oct 11th, 2025, 1pm, Red, White & Blue
 - Saturday June 27, 2026, Songs & Stories of the American Revolution
 - David Lang: Asking for April 11 or 18, 2026 for the Battle of Bound Brook presentation
 - Tim Civil War Program: January or February 2026
 - Other Options:
 - Alisa Dupuy: Jane will check with RPL to see if they have booked her already
 - 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
 - Excellent posts
- Knox Porter Banners:
 - Larger banner over Somerset Street
 - Smaller Knox Porter banner hung by NJ Transit over 206

- Banner is too small to be placed on Overpass. Suggested to be placed either on the front lawn of the RPL or Reformed Church next year
- Project ideas for the 250th anniversary of the USA
 - Revolution NJ – Raritan Council adopted the resolution in May
 - Ornaments
 - Postcard – pictures, dates of our events going on to celebrate the 250th

New Business

- Storage under new management
 - Consider insuring the items stored
 - Talk with the borough about this
- Mural
 - Jen has begun painting
 - Will have a ribbon cutting once it is completed
- Two boxes of material from VFW – in the storage unit
- Invitation to Somerset County Historical Society's showcase on August 2, 2025, at RVCC
 - Pass, no interest
- Two books from the Raritan Country Club
- Reenactment at the Court House Green in Somerville
 - History on the Green
 - July 19, 2025

Adjournment 7:12pm.