

Raritan Historical & Cultural Committee
Minutes, May 16, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 7pm and began with the salute to the flag.

Attending: Marie Lombardy, Christine Torres, Tim Rack, Al Capetta, Jane Ficacaro, Pat Mastice, Karen Eastlund, Jim Fidacaro, Zack Bray, Ed Ruzbarsky

Excused: Joyce Tronolone

Public Attendee: Ned Lombardy

Officer Reports:

A. President – Thanks to all who helped at the 70th anniversary party. Christine and Jane made a trifold bulletin board for display and Christine made copies of our CDs. Tim brought milk bottles for display. A woman donated a bottle from a Raritan dairy. Jim shared 3 pictures of our display.

B. Vice President – Al is glad to be back and stated that he used to work at the Raritan dairy. He has a bottle just like the one donated.

C. Secretary – April minutes were approved and accepted. Christine & Jane made the motions.

D. Treasurer - \$1,000 has been allocated for our yearly budget. We spent some on supplies for the 70th party, leaving us with \$953.04. We will spend \$300 for the program at the library on 5/24. We have \$776.15 in our trust fund.

Old Business:

A. Speaker's Bureau – A program on Mary Todd Lincoln will be co-sponsored by our committee at the library on May 24 at 6:30 p.m. There will also be a Betsy Ross program at the library on Flag Day, June 14, sponsored by a donation from town.

B. Raritan 70th birthday event – The activities were good, but turnout was lower than expected. We suggest more advertising, and clearer signage for such events.

C. Awards given at the 70th Party – We gave a picture of the incorporation of Raritan in 1948. We sold some walking tour booklets. Bruce Doorley made up a booklet that he gave out at the library table. We would like to work together.

D. Firehouse Model – Tim reported that someone in Moscow is asking \$17 for a cardboard model of a firehouse that looks just like our historic firehouse. It is meant for use with HO train sets. We will not pursue it.

E. Regional Center Grants – Christine attended a meeting about the grants. She felt that this is not something we can pursue as she was the only volunteer in attendance and the grants are a massive undertaking. The mayor will talk with Stan Schrek and Angela Knowles regarding grants for the firehouse.

The mayor likes Jim's idea of painting the benches in town. Five people from town will sit down to talk over possibilities. Linda Schulte knows a high school art teacher who might work on this. If funded we would need to advertise through the paper to get adults to paint benches. Zach Bray mentioned that there is an art teacher who lives on Anderson St.

New Business:

A. John Basilone statue - Don Tozzi called Jim regarding Basilone bobbleheads.

B. The mayor has asked organizations to work together.

C. Then and Now Books – how can we finish one? We decided to work together at our next meeting to get script written.

D. Washington School Monument – The job had to be rebid. The new person has been hired and the project should be finished in approximately one month. We will ask to have a part in the ribbon cutting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:42.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Eastlund, Secretary