

History & Culture Committee

Minutes, June 20, 2018

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

Public Attendees: Ned Lombardy, Christine's father

Meeting was called to order with the pledge of allegiance.

Secretary's Report:

Tim moved that the minutes of May's meeting be accepted. Joyce seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Treasurer's Report:

Jane reported that we have \$776.15 in our trust fund, and \$700 in our yearly budgeted account. We owe Ed \$36 for supplies for the history book that he keeps.

Old Business:

Speaker's Bureau: An excellent program about Mary Todd Lincoln was given at the library. We helped fund this program with a donation of \$300. The room was full, and Jim took pictures of the event. Thanks to Joyce for setting this up!

Town Thank You Picnic – All members are invited to a picnic in Basilone Park on June 29th. Please respond to Linda Schulte.

Regional Center Grant – Christine attended a meeting with Ms. Knowles regarding grants to be used to beautify town. Our committee should provide Ms. Knowles with goals and ideas for a project and she will write the grant.

Then & Now Book – Jim moved that we accept this project. The vote carried. Christine and Jane will chair the project. They will contact Linda Barth regarding our intentions.

Washington School Monument update – Jim reported that parts have been ordered to complete the monument. Work should start in early July, with expected completion within two weeks of work starting.

New Business:

Project Goals:

We discussed the criteria for goals for the grant. The final project needs to enhance the community and encourage community participation. We talked about wraparounds for the benches and learned that the wraparounds are tamper proof. We would need artists to offer their work, and decided we could put out an ad to

find volunteer artists in town. We will need to set the criteria. Jane moved that we proceed with the application for this grant, and Christine seconded. The motion passed. We will put the name of our committee on the wraps if we receive funding.

We will offer the following goals to Ms. Knowles for the grant proposal:

To beautify our main thoroughfare, which is Somerset St.

To highlight the history and culture of town

To include everyone in our community

To highlight local artists

To deliver a clear appreciation of the artistic creativity of local artists

To encourage use of downtown businesses

To create a vivid and lively environment

July meeting:

There was discussion and a motion to cancel our meeting for July. The motion passed.

New Artifact:

Al shared a circa 1900 photo of Wall Street that has been donated to the committee.

A motion was made by Ed and seconded by Christine that the meeting be adjourned. Motion passed.

Respectfully,

Karen Eastlund, Secretary

Addendum: Jim shared an article, "Raritan's New Veteran's Park" which was mentioned in the Marine Corp magazine.

Herb Patullo discovered a second "Washington Rock" (General Washington's look-out station for British movement during Revolutionary War) on his property.