

Cultural and Historic Affairs Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 11, 2012

The Bethany Beach Cultural and Historic Affairs Committee held a meeting on Tuesday, September 11, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. in the Town Meeting Room, 214 Garfield Parkway, Bethany Beach, DE 19930.

Members present: Carol Olmstead, who presided; Gloria Farrar; Jan Kinsella; Theo Loppatto; Mary Lou McNerny; Jean Wode; and Margaret Young.

Absent members: Mary Lou Urquhart

Also present: Lindsey Good, Administrative Secretary.

Call to Order

Ms. Olmstead called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Ms. Wode called a brief moment of silence to honor September 11th.

Approval of Minutes from the August 14, 2012 Meeting

After an amendment, Ms. Young made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Seconded by Ms. Farrar, the motion was unanimously approved.

Announcements

Ms. Olmstead made the announcement that the Ocean View Historical Society is holding an open house event on September 15th in the historical house that they re-furbished at the John West Park. She will send the Committee members the additional information on this event to see if they would like to attend.

Financial Report

Ms. Olmstead advised that the Financial Report is not yet complete, so discussion of this item will be postponed until the next meeting.

Review Summer Docent Program and Fall Hours

The Committee ensued a discussion on establishing a schedule for the museum to be open during the fall. Ms. Loppatto noted that she was a docent in the summer on Monday mornings and Wednesday evenings, and there were many more visitors on Monday mornings. Ms. Olmstead added that there were very few museum visitors on the weekends during the summer.

Ms. Olmstead suggested that the museum be open three (3) or four (4) mornings next summer. Ms. Young added that the museum be during the same time that a Cultural Event is taking place.

Ms. Olmstead asked the Committee when the museum should be scheduled to be open during the fall.

Ms. Loppatto recommended that the museum should be open with docents working during times when the Town Hall is open for business. Ms. Farrar suggested that it also be open on the Friday after Thanksgiving and during that weekend. An advertisement will be published in the newspaper announcing that the museum will be open during this time.

The Committee decided that the museum will also be open on December 7th and December 14th. Ms. Farrar advised that the museum be open during the University of Delaware's Life Long seminars that are held at the Town Hall on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. The Committee agreed that this is a great idea.

Ms. Olmstead noted that once the museum schedule is established, a notice will be e-mailed to the docents so the working times can be scheduled. Ms. Kinsella and Ms. Urquhart are responsible for the docent schedule.

Discussion Regarding Possible Cultural Events

The Committee discussed the following ideas for Cultural Events:

- Delaware Public Archives
 - Beginning Genealogy
 - Why Delaware Has Its Shape
 - Treasures of the Delaware Public Archives
 - How to Research the History of Your House
- Thomas Ryan: Wives of Generals
- MERR: Animal Rescue

After some discussion, the Committee decided they will ask Mr. Tom Ryan to give a presentation on “Wives of Historical Generals” and the Delaware Public Archives to give a presentation on “Treasures of the Delaware Public Archives”. Ms. Young is going to contact Mr. Ryan and Ms. Loppatto is going to contact the Delaware Public Archives.

The Cultural events will be scheduled for two (2) Thursdays (one in the middle of February and one in the middle of April) at 4:00 p.m.

Ms. Farrar made a suggestion to distribute dinner coupons/tickets during the Cultural Event. The Committee felt that this is a good idea.

Ms. McNerny asked if a Cultural Event could be presented in the future on the Storm of 1962. Ms. Olmstead acknowledged that they were considering showing a movie about the storm, but decided not to since many other towns/businesses presented a movie on it. She added that she will lend the City of Rehoboth Beach's movie on the Storm of '62 to Ms. McNerny.

Ongoing Projects/Goals for 2012-2013 Year

Ms. Wode questioned if the Committee is going to pursue the project of creating historical house signs, and noted that a house owner asked her about the requirements to obtain a historical house sign. Ms. Olmstead stated that she will add this item to the agenda for next month's meeting.

Oral History Update

Ms. Olmstead reported that Mr. Ray Disney has not contacted her since the Committee meeting last month. She acknowledged that both she and Mr. Disney have been very busy.

The Committee listened to the following interviews and made notes on what parts should be included on the DVD:

- Martha Jean Addy
- Carolyn Regan Hildenbrand

Adjourn

Ms. McNerny made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Ms. Young, the motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 3:06 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 9, 2012 at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lindsey Good, Admin. Secretary