

The Board of the Litchfield Historical Society met at the Tapping Reeve House July 13, 2017.

Present: Ms. Hinkel, presiding; *Mmes.* Furniss, Rahilly, Blazier, Budney, Honan, Jones; *Messers.* LaGattuta, Quay, Roraback, Terzian, Sherman, Wacker; *Absent:* Copeland, Vermilyea, Newton, Brickley; Mrs. Fields, by invitation.

The President called the meeting to order at 5:08 PM.

The President opened the meeting by thanking Alan and Lynne Sherman for hosting the donor party at their home.

The minutes of the June 8, 2017 meeting were approved and accepted with one spelling error.

Financial Report Mr. Quay

- Support & revenue are ahead of budget to date.
- Expenses are lower than budgeted.
- Event revenue ahead of budget to date.
- \$4800.00 surplus to date.
- 5.6% net return on investments since Jan 2017.

President's Report Ms. Hinkel

- November meeting changed to November 2, 2017
- Thanked Mr. Wacker for providing the libations for the donor garden party.
- No meeting in August.

Task Force and Committee Reports

- Ms. Furniss reported on the fall fundraiser. Music is booked, food stations selected. Mr & Mrs Tavino have donated the use of their tent. The date for the event is September 17, 2017.
- Mr. Roraback reported on the first Law School committee meeting, distributed minutes to the board. Commented how unheralded the Law School is but supported so well by the staff and board. The committee will work to raise the profile of the school. There may be opportunities to have other organizations hold events at the site.
- The Director reported on the preparations for the 300th anniversary of the founding of Litchfield. Ms. Brickley is a committee member with the Director ex officio. LHS to build on documenting and digitizing photos and records.

Directors Report Ms. Fields

- The Reeve landscaping is progressing. September 17th is the target date for near completion. Final plantings to be put in next spring. Litchfield Preservation Trust is donating a chestnut grove in memory of Chip Spencer.
- Steps to the library entrance and new sidewalks will begin construction on August 16, 2017.
- There was a lunch on August 7th with the Accreditation committee.
- Family friendly events scheduled for September 16 with Olivia Delaney. Adult oriented events scheduled for September 17th.

- There will be an author talk on the Biography of Dillon Ripley 3pm.on September 24th at the museum, co-sponsored by the Ripley Waterfowl Sanctuary
- Regina Mason, a descendant of William Grimes, has made a film about his escape from slavery and life in Litchfield. The society has helped with her extensive research. Many opportunities for the society to promote the film and the society. We have invited Ms. Mason and the film's director to screen the film and discuss the project. Mr. Roraback will try and contact the African American Bar Association to see if there is any interest in helping promote.

Adjourned 6:00pm

Respectfully submitted,

John LaGattuta, Vice President