

Minutes of the November 2, 2017 Meeting of the Board of the Litchfield Historical Society

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

The President called the meeting to order at 5:00PM at the museum.

Megan Olver presented a power-point report on the new website to be up in 2018. It is being done by Gibson in Charlottesville, VA, the same firm that created our first website. It will be in Word Press format and 100% customized. The 4 major topics will be: 1. Discover Our Museums; 2. Explore Our Collections; 3. Tours and Programs; 4. Calendar of Events. Sponsorship Banners may go anywhere on the site. Menus on the bottoms of pages link everything. The Membership Section allows joining and making renewals online. The Museum Shop Section will highlight specials. Books will be sold only on Amazon. There will be a Section on Litchfield's 300th.

The museum collections and archival collection data bases (CollectionSpace and ArchivesSpace) are now linked providing a "bento box" type result from any search. For example if a researcher searches Benjamin Tallmadge, the result will include Tallmadge's papers, portraits and pants – as well as any other objects associated with him. The new search tool will be available early next year.

Minutes

A motion was made by Mrs. Blazier and seconded by Mr. Quay to approve and accept the minutes of the October 12, 2017 meeting. The motion passed.

Financial Report

Mr. Quay

- Dues and membership are \$8,000 above budget due to the last payment of the Budny bequest.
- The Annual Appeal letters to go out soon.
- Events income budgeted at \$30,000 is at \$38,000.
- Expenses are below budget leaving a surplus for Jan-Oct 2017 of \$21,000.

President's Report

Mrs. Hinkel

- Mmes. Honan, Hinkel and Fields are meeting in January 2018 to discuss a new Governance Policy Statement.
- The Board will meet, hopefully, in March, to discuss governance and how to enhance an already skilled Board especially in the area of Fundraising and sharing the LHS story.
- There will be no December Board Meeting, but a Christmas cocktail party at the Quay's on Friday, December 14th, from 5 to 7 PM. Please bring room-temperature goodies!

Litchfield Law School Report

Mr. Roraback

- Board Members interested are invited to join the group discussing the law school.

They meet on the 4th Thursday of the month, at 8 AM @theCorner. Tino West has joined the group.

Director's Report

Mrs. Fields

Tapping Reeve Landscape Report

- The apple trees are planted and there is a map with varieties named.
- The fence location is flagged to be done in 2017.
- Hardscape is done with beds filled with dirt.
- Next steps are paving paths with gravel and fieldstone, driveway, not decided yet, and children's planting beds and will be done in the spring.

Annual Appeal Letters 2,000 letters will be mailed next week.

Regina Mason Movie

- Will be held Sunday, February 4th early afternoon.
- Hope to hold it at Forman School and involve students.
- Have \$1,000 from the CT Community Foundation and looking for more sponsors.

CT Humanities Council

- State restored \$850,000 to CHC budget
- Will be hiring new Director
- Mrs. Fields going back on the Board

There being no additional old or new business, the President adjourned the meeting at 6:00PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynne Brickley, Secretary