

Minutes of the March 15, 2018 Meeting of the Board of the Litchfield Historical Society

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

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

Carol Jones presented a comprehensive look at the procedures for accepting and accessioning objects into the collection. Carol has a background in costume and textile history and has been volunteering with our curators since September 2014.

Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Sherman and seconded by Ms. Honan to approve and accept the minutes of the February 8, 2018 meeting. The motion passed.

Financial Report

Mr. Quay

- Mr. Quay presented the financial statement for March 2018. We are early in the year, but we are on track.

President's Report

Mrs. Hinkel

- Jane and Cathy met with Diane Stoner, President of the Litchfield Garden Club, to bring her up to speed on the plans for the Tapping Reeve Meadow.

Directors Report – Mrs. Fields

- Cathy spent two days in Washington DC at the American Alliance of Museums Advocacy Day on Capitol Hill. The Connecticut delegation met with staff members our Senators and Representatives to talk about the importance of Federal funding for museums through the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Institute of Museum and Library Services. She shared statistics and the results of a national poll on the impact of museums. The survey showed that museums add a significant amount to the local economy and that there is widespread, bi-partisan support for Federal funding.
- The donor preview for the new exhibits will be held on Friday April 6. The Annual Meeting and public opening will be Friday April 13.
- The society has joined the North American Reciprocal Museums Program. The program offers free admission to museums nationwide for members at the 125 level or above. We hope that the program will encourage members to join at a higher level.
- We have received a grant of \$3900 from the CT Humanities Council for the Litchfield Female Academy exhibit.
- The Connecticut Community foundation is offering a volunteer match service called “Catch-a-Fire” to some of their constituents. The program matched non-profits with professional volunteers in areas like graphic design, marketing and PR. There is no cost to us.
- Megan is working with the designers and data base specialists to work out the final kinks in the web site. It will be up and running by the Annual Meeting.

Committee/Task Force Reports

Events – Mrs. Furniss

- Mrs. Furniss reported that on events coming up this year. She and her committee will work on logistics for these events. The first two events will be the donor opening on April 6 and the public opening on the 13th. The committee will meet to work out the details of the May 18th party in the Tapping Reeve Meadow and will begin planning for the September 15th fundraiser.

Governance – Mrs. Honan

- Mrs. Honan reported that Cara Blazier has agreed to chair the membership and community engagement committee.
- Nat Worden will join the board and all officers will remain in place.
- Ann Green of the Connecticut Community Foundation, Nonprofit Advisory Institute (NAI) will attend the May meeting to work with the board align on ways to help align the work of the board with the strategic plan.

Tapping Reeve – Mrs. Fields for Mr. Roraback

- The committee continues to meet at 8am the fourth Thursday of the month @the corner.
- Cathy has begun working with Gibson Design in Charlottesville on a guidebook for the Reeve site. The Tapping Reeve Committee has pledge funds to get the design started
- Andrew is working with the CT Bar Foundation to plan an event at the Reeve site. Details are yet to be worked out but they have expressed interest.
- Andrew has arranged for Cathy to give a short presentation on the Law School at the Connecticut Judge's institute in July

There being no additional old or new business, the President adjourned the meeting at 6:05PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Fields