

ASBURY PARK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Minutes, Meeting of Thursday, October 16, 2014 held at the Stephen Crane House at 7:30 PM

Trustees Present: Chomko, Damato, Harris, Henry, Rosenberg, Shulman, Sobotka, Stine, Troppoli (quorum achieved)

Trustees Absent: Chapman, Moor

Approval of minutes:

Minutes from the September 2014 meeting were approved.

Comments from the Public:

Charlie and Pam Horner gave a brief update on the proposed “Teenagers” show. Eileen and Don are working with the Horners on this project. The show’s expenses are estimated at \$20,000.00, and the Paramount Theater (which seats 1600) is the most likely venue, so talks would need to be held with Madison Marquette. As there is a “doo-wop” concert to be held at the Ocean Grove Great Auditorium in July, favorable event scheduling is paramount. The discussion was tabled pending more information on venue availability.

Tom Chesek will obtain information on the 2015 induction of Stephen Crane into the NJ Hall of Fame.

President’s Report:

Don encouraged the Trustees’ participation to sell 50-50 raffle tickets at all APHS events and assist in selling them to family and friends.

Don reported on a meeting held with him, Jennifer and Lamont Repollet, the new Superintendent of the Asbury Park School District. Mr. Repollet is very enthusiastic about sharing the city’s history with his students, especially in the higher grades, and may be attending a future meeting to express this as well as become more familiar with the APHS.

Don reported that Jackie Pappas, President of the AP Chamber of Commerce discussed the possibility of creating several short films about the city with the participation of the APHS, Brookdale Community College and/or Monmouth University. This will be explored in the future.

Budget/Finance- Treasurer: Mary Damato

John grant has incorporated the APHS finances into QuickBooks up to September 2014.

As of September 30th, there is approximately \$9374 in the general account. The balance in the SCH Fund is \$115,883; there are small amounts in the PayPal and gaming accounts, bringing the total to about \$126,000. Getting an exemption for checking fees due to APHS being a 501 (c) (3) NFP organization will be explored.

Website: Jenny Shulman

- Email blasts that have gone out since last meeting:
- ***NATIONAL 9/11 MEMORIAL & MUSEUM and LOWER MANHATTAN TOUR email blast (multiple blasts)***
- ***Kate Mellina's Boardwalk History Talk (multiple blasts)***
- APHS on Facebook now has 484 likes! Many of them are very engaged, meaning they like and comment and share the posts we put up, as well as invite others to the site.
- Content added to website since last meeting: videos posted to the gallery page

It is expected that the new website will be up and running sometime in December 2014. The board will be given a demonstration before it goes "live."

The banners are in the process of being designed, and mock-up designs will be presented at the next meeting.

Archives/Artifacts & Exhibitions: Don Stine

Don recommended both the president and vice president be relieved of committee chairmanships, so that their individual duties could be focused upon. This will be open to discussion, and may be a topic on the reorganization ballot in January.

As the AP Downtown Cultural and Business District has been granted a place on the state and federal historic registries, Don asked that the APHS consider conducting paid tours of this historic area. It was suggested that the city historian have a part in this activity.

Kate Mellina will be presenting a free lecture on the history of the Asbury Park boardwalk and its associated structures at the AP Public Library on Thursday, October 23rd. Light refreshments will be served.

Historic Preservation/Sites and Buildings: David Sobotka, Susan Rosenberg

Dave reported that the final edits to the application for the placement of the SCH on the NJ State Historic Registry will be submitted next week, as several changes were requested by SHPO. It is hoped that once this additional information is submitted that their approval will be prompt. Federal registry listing is expected 90 days thereafter.

The APHS participated in the *Monmouth County Archives and History Day* on Saturday, October 11th. Susan Rosenberg and Kristin Stine represented APHS at its table. Newsletters, books membership applications and 50-50 tickets were made available to event attendees.

Susan updated recent fund raising activity for APHS, and noted that most of the non-SCH related fundraising came from donations and 50/50 proceeds that resulted from a table "reach-out" beginning at Easter and including summer weekends, Labor Day Weekend, Oysterfest, the Morro Castle lecture and commemoration, and Archives Day.

Susan also shared the proof copy of an antique AP city map on high quality paper (12"x18") as a fund raising opportunity for APHS. Suggested price range for this map was \$5.00-10.00; it was suggested that other maps also be considered for reproduction.

The printing of business cards for the trustees was discussed; it was agreed that this would be done, but with a generic style that could be used by any and all trustees.

Legal/Government Relations/Grants: Jim Henry

November 1st is the city's deadline for application for tax-exempt status for the SCH. Jim is confident that this and the application to the state for condominiumizing the property will be met. It was agreed that there would be no reversion clause in the contract of sale.

It was suggested that the APHS wrap its insurance policies in an attempt to conserve funds.

The AP St. Patrick's Day Committee has made a request to once again use the APHS gaming license for its annual raffle. It is questionable whether or not this

committee is a NFP organization. The APHS Board will decide on whether their support will be provided pending affirmation of the committee's NFP status.

Fundraising: Teddy Chomko

The bus trip to be held in conjunction with the Historical Society of Ocean Grove will be held on October 25th to the World Trade Center Memorial in NYC is on-over 40 tickets have been sold. It was agreed that the Ocean Grove Historical Association share in both the profits and losses associated with this event.

Teddy will also be in charge of refreshments at Kate Mellina's upcoming free event.

It was suggested that a reception be held at the SCH on Saturday, November 1st (Stephen Crane's birthday) to celebrate the purchase of the house by the APHS. As the AP Homeowner's Association no longer has an annual house tour fundraising event, it was proposed that the APHS pursue this idea, possibly in April. Many issues, including the potential liability of the APHS and the homeowners will need to be explored.

Don also wants to plan an APHS awards dinner during that month.

Special Events: Eileen Chapman (given by Don Stine)

Eileen will be working on both the "Teenagers" concert and the "Brass Ring" project.

Membership: Kay Harris

Kay will be selling APHS 50-50s at the Asbury Galleria.

Kay also reported that there has been 1 new membership this month.

Secretary/Newsletter: Donna Troppoli

The newsletter draft for the Fall 2014 issue is almost complete-photos of events held during this period were requested.

More thank-you letters have been mailed to additional SCH donors-the St. Patrick's Day Committee (\$500.00) and Kathy Kelly of Paranormal Books (\$100.00).

It was noted that Dolly Sternesky, a former APHS Trustee and active fundraiser is ill. A gift and card will be sent to her home.

The NJ league of Historical Societies has posted information on Kate Mellina's upcoming event in their recent e-blast-it is hoped that this will be the first of many.