

## **Historic Sites Committee of Warren, NJ**

**January 19, 2022**

**Members attending:** Rory Britt, John Lindner, Rich Disano, Christy Cwynar, Susie Boyce, Kari Quirós, Greg Fitzgerald, Debra Rebetke, Alan Siegel, Erica Sbarra

**Excused:** John George, Karl Horster

**Visitor:** Mic Marion (via phone)

Minutes were read and corrected.

### **New Business:**

- A. John Lindner handed out a sign-up sheet for sub-committees for projects.
- B. Mausoleum
  - a. Clean up graffiti.
  - b. Install an aluminum fence.
  - c. Get estimates to have it cleaned
  - d. Speak to Joe Pizarro regarding walking paths.
  - e. DPW needs to be made aware that garbage can not be dumped near the mausoleum (sofas and paving stones have been dumped there).
    - i. Mic Marion is going to speaker with Doug about cleaning it up.
- C. Grotto Project
  - a. The Grotto is in good condition but the pool needs to be cleaned of branches and the signage needs to be replaced.
  - b. The Township does not own the property.
  - c. The HSC will ask the Boy Scouts if they would like to take on the project.
- D. Codington
  - a. Estimates were submitted for fixing the house but mothballing the building would be best.
  - b. The family needs to give direction about what to do with the house contents.
  - c. The paperwork which belongs to the Committee will need to be removed.

#### E. Baptist Meeting House

- a. Unmarked human remains are scattered around the building and right up against it..
- b. Dendrochronology report
  - i. The wood logs are from all over the place.
  - ii. Core samples from the wood are very specific (some are from 1761 and other are from 1786).
  - iii. The building was most likely dismantled, reassembled, and has changed in size.
  - iv. A teacher in the 1840s wrote the first known history of the church.

#### F. Cemeteries

- a. Baptist Meeting House Cemetery
  - i. Post WWII maps were made of the cemetery.
  - ii. Alan and Debra volunteered to help with this project.
- b. Old Church Cemetery
  - i. The fencing was replaced but the signage also needs to be replaced.
- c. Codington Cemetery
  - i. The signage needs to be repaired.
- d. Tucker Cemetery
  - i. The cemetery is in good condition and is not deteriorated or eroded.
    - 1. There isn't any signage – the Committee should have a sign made.

#### G. Eggo Mat

- a. Rory agreed to take this project.
- b. Wagner's agreed to have the Eggo Mat reside on their property.
- c. Status of its condition needs to be evaluated.
- d. It should be kept in a barn so that it will not be exposed to the elements.
- e. The Schmaltz shed should also be kept on the Wagner's property.

#### H. Demo Projects

- a. Greg will start documenting demolitions.
- b. If only one wall remains, it can be considered a remodel, not a demolition.

#### I. Fall Festival

- a. \$121 was made from the book sales and the amount will go into the general fund.

#### J. Police 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

- a. An agenda is being put together for the autumn.
- b. Antique cars will be on display.

#### K. King George Inn Signage

- a. Alan wrote information about the KGI for the sign and a mock-up will be made.

#### L. Cleaning

- a. The Committee was allocated \$3,000 for cleaning in 2022.
- b. The Committee will find a service and arrange for the cleaning for the Kirch Ford and Baptist Meeting Houses.
- c. Rich will get estimates. There will be an initial deep cleaning and then periodic basic cleanings afterwards.
- d. Good cleanings will be done of both buildings before the autumn open houses. (Right now, just the Kirch Ford House will be cleaned as work is still being done at the Baptist Meeting House.)

#### M. Appointments

- a. Aparna Virmani is a new appointment.
- b. Nancy Micou was not reappointed due to a lack of attendance but she is interested in joining the Historical Society.
  - i. Rory will ask Mark Crane to write a thank you letter to Nancy.
- c. The new appointee who was supposed to start at the beginning of 2021 never came to any meetings so he has not been reappointed.

#### N. Administration Fees

- a. Margaret Westfield's fees are currently covered by current grants.
  - i. Rory is continuing to work on grants and will summarize them and their timelines.
  - ii. Local arts and history grants can be requested for up to \$50,000 each.

O. Speakers

- a. Greg stated that he get back a variety of different speakers.
- b. Many places are currently using Zoom as a virtual platform for presentations.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55pm

Respectfully submitted,

Kari Quiros, Rec. Sec.