

Greater Dover Historical Society
June 16, 2011

The regular meeting of the Greater Dover Historical Society was called to order by President Madelyn Shermeyer at 7:00 p.m. at the Calvary Lutheran Church. Members present were the following: Lori & Jeff Koch, Madelyn & Harry Shermeyer, Randy & Judy Worley, Lucia Hrinyak, Chris & Bill Coleman, Jo Ott, Lois Slothower, Don & Donna Gross, Grace Trimmer, Zita Smith, Mel Miller, Kay Stitley, Cindy Snyder, Eli Nikkanen, and a guest, Barbara Cramer. The members stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Shermeyer introduced Glenn Jansen, Deputy Fire Chief & Fire Marshall of the Dover Township Volunteer Fire Department, who gave a very informative presentation on fire safety.

President Shermeyer presented the April and May 2011 minutes for approval and asked for any additions or corrections to the minutes. A motion to accept the minutes as presented was made by Jo Ott and seconded by Jeff Koch. All voted in favor and motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report for May 2011 was presented by Bill Coleman:

Balance as of May 1, 2011	\$15,665.64
Deposits for May	42.67
Expenses for May	39.94
Balance as of May 31, 2011	\$15,668.37

There was a motion by Judy Worley to approve the treasurer's report as presented and seconded by Chris Coleman. All voted in favor and motion passed.

Assistant Archivist report – President Shermeyer reported that an email was sent by Walt Crider concerning a friend of his who would like to donate a player piano; this information was forwarded to Gayle Heagy for response. Judy Worley reported that June Kinsey had donated a large wagon wheel which is displayed at the Blacksmith Shop. Judy will confirm that June has a donation form to complete and return to the assistant archivist.

Historian report – no report

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Adopt-a-Highway – no report

Landscaping Committee – Lucia Hrinyak reported the Committee met on June 6 for approximately 2 hours to perform miscellaneous clean-up, weeding and general maintenance of the gardens since there had been quite a bit of rain since their first meeting on April 7. Lucia asked members to please let her know if there are any problems or issues with the gardens at any time since she does not travel past the site on a regular basis.

Board of Directors – Jeff Koch reported Wayne Slothower purchased and donated several pieces of bar

stock and it is at the BSS ready for use. The Board discussed the liability insurance premium renewal for the BSS since Erie Insurance was granted a 30% rate increase; the premium increased by \$100 for this year. The Treasurer had contacted several other insurance companies for quotes; unfortunately other companies were not willing to underwrite a similar umbrella policy for the GHDS. It was agreed to pay the premium renewal to Erie Insurance for \$450; the Treasurer will remit payment by the June 23 due date.

OLD BUSINESS

President Shermeyer reported she closed out the Lowe's business credit account for the GDHS which the members approved last month. President Shermeyer reported she was in contact with Don Keener regarding the 150th Civil War Anniversary celebration since he is a member of the Civil War Roundtable. According to Mr. Keener, he will check with the Roundtable to see if there are plans for any county-wide event; he did suggest that the Dover area could host a re-enactment in June/July 2013 similar to the 125th anniversary event. By this time in 2013, Dover Township will own the land where the cannons were lined up – this is currently the golf course on Municipal Drive. Don Keener offered to contact the Jeb Stuart group who organized the 125th anniversary event to see if they still exist and would be interested in assisting in planning a Dover re-enactment. All members agreed to entertain this idea and President Shermeyer will contact Don Keener.

NEW BUSINESS

President Shermeyer reported she reserved the 2 spaces at the Dover Fair for the GDHS with Mike Deardorff. President Shermeyer asked for a volunteer to be coordinator for the fair and Vice President Kay Stitley graciously volunteered. Other members will assist, including Judy & Randy Worley, Jeff & Lori Koch, Lois Slothower and Cindy Snyder. Vice President Stitley and Zita Smith will gather photos and other family memorabilia of the George Leader inauguration to use in the fair display. As a side note, Harry Shermeyer's cousin (Maddie Livingston) was Leader's nanny at the Governor's Mansion.

President Shermeyer reminded members that our July meeting will be held at the Log Cabin.

Blacksmith Shop open house – Randy Worley reported on the June open house. Eli Nikkanen worked the forge, made a fork while explaining the process and answered many questions from the visitors. Randy reported there were a lot of visitors in and out all day, approximately 50. Eli is originally from Ontario, Canada and he gave a brief personal history. Eli reported he has investigated historical research on trolleys, which he holds a strong interest, including the trolley purchased from Stan Bolton by Dover Township for approximately \$2,000. At one time, Bolton had owned 3 trolleys; in 1993 one trolley was donated by the Township to the York County Agriculture and Industrial Museum, which has been restored. Eli stated he is very interested in finding another trolley which the GDHS can purchase and restore, or perhaps be donated by its owner. He located a gentleman in Portland, Oregon who has 3 trolleys but they cost \$215,000 each. There is a company in Warren, Pennsylvania called Stone Consulting and their expertise is grant procurement for historical projects and they also handle trolley and train installations. Eli would like to continue research to find someone who may be willing to donate a trolley or acquire grant funding to place a stationery trolley in Brookside Park. Randy Worley stated Eli does lectures and would be willing to be a guest speaker at our meeting.

Randy Worley reported he brought in an old cast iron skillet to place onto the cook stove in the BSS and

Randy suggested that Cindy Snyder could provide an old porcelain coffee pot. The wagon wheel donated by June Kinsey are on display near the wall at the cook stove so Judy Worley suggested the heater be moved into the storage shed so it isn't sitting out in the public view. Judy Worley commended and thanked Eli for the fine job he did at the open house.

President Shermeyer reported she has been contacted and invited to make a presentation about the GDHS to the Weiglestown Lioness Club in July.

President Shermeyer reported that Tom Miles will be taking over the position of webmaster for the GDHS. Maureen App had been volunteering her time for the website and Tom has volunteered to do it. Tom Miles will become a GDHS member and then begin to assist in making corrections to the website, etc. The membership agreed to make the change in our webmaster to Tom Miles. President Shermeyer and Vice President Stitley will get together in the near future to discuss the corrective updates required for the website, especially the Kid's Page.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Vice President Stitley stated that Tuesday evening is the historical walk and refreshment donations will be appreciated. The walk will begin promptly at 6pm at the Blacksmith Shop. Transportation will be available for anyone who cannot walk the entire tour. There was a brief discussion relating to a home on North Main Street in Dover Borough which may have ghostly visitors.

Mel Miller reported that the West Manchester Historical Society will host a presentation on old mills in York County by Terry Koller and Ray Kinard on July 18 at 7pm. Cindy Snyder asked if there is a record of all the items in our archives and President Shermeyer stated Gayle Heagy has a complete catalogue list. Cindy was hoping to access this list to find new items to display at the Dover Fair, although President Shermeyer stated that at least 90% of our archive consists of paper items which need to be kept in the climate-controlled locked storage.

There being no further questions or suggestions from the membership, the meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Koch
GDHS secretary