

Greater Dover Historical Society
March 15, 2012

The regular meeting of the Greater Dover Historical Society was called to order by President Madelyn Shermeyer at 7:05 p.m. at Calvary Lutheran Church in Dover. Members present were the following: Lori Koch, Chris & Bill Coleman, Shirley Weaver, June Kinsey, Grace Trimmer, Zita Smith, Carol Leathery, Randy & Judy Worley, Jo Ott, Ron & Norma Botterbusch, Cindy Snyder, Kay Stitley, Lois Slothower, Madelyn Shermeyer and Melanie Green. The members stood for the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence in honor of those serving our country and their families.

President Shermeyer presented the February 2012 minutes for approval and asked for any additions or corrections to the minutes. A motion to accept the minutes as presented was made by Cindy Snyder and seconded by Bill Coleman. All voted in favor and motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report for February 2012 was presented. There was a motion by Carol Leathery 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 the Jacob Joner 1838 Springfield rifle is now on display in the glass case at the Dover Township Building. The foot warmer used in carriages and sleighs, donated by Georgia Sprenkle, is also in the display case. It has not been determined if this item came from the Dover area but is a very unique item which is now a part of our historical archive.

Historian report – no report

BOD report – Cindy Snyder reported on items discussed by the Board as follows: 1). Eli Nikkanen made a request to host a Boy Scout troop at the Blacksmith Shop for educational purposes and possibly earn credit towards a badge. Cindy will contact Eli for additional information. BOD approved. 2). Rick Pope contacted Cindy to ask if the BBS could be open for 2 recreation events in Ketterman Park on July 22 and August 19. BOD approved. 3). President Shermeyer received a request from Joseph Perez seeking to place advertising on our website. His company is from California. BOD denied. 4). Discussion on placing an order form/informational brochure for the Blood Root book in the Dover Library. Perhaps a flyer could be distributed with details on the book and name of individual to contact if anyone is interested in obtaining a copy of the book.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Adopt-a-Highway – Melanie Green reported the first litter pick-up for this year will be held on April 14, 8:00am at the same meeting location.

Landscaping Committee – Randy Worley reported that Jo Ott is now a member of the committee. The committee will meet on March 27 at 9am (March 29 rain date) for their spring cleanup.

OLD BUSINESS

President Shermeyer reminded members to submit volunteer hours to Bill Coleman.

Trash bags – Chris Coleman is now in charge of this fundraiser and anyone who wants trash bags should contact Chris Coleman directly.

Dover Fair – Cindy Snyder and Kay Stitley have agreed to co-chair this event.

Speakers – President Shermeyer stated the list of suggested guest speakers are found on the reverse side of the meeting agenda. We should have at least 2 speakers scheduled for this year, in May and October. It was decided that Lois Slothower will contact Bill Zech for May and Cindy Snyder will contact the Ben Franklin impersonator (Bill Fox) for October. A backup plan for October will be a membership show-and-tell. Randy Worley suggested Eli Nikannen as a guest speaker. President Shermeyer will forward all suggested speakers to the BOD.

President Shermeyer reminded members the sign-up sheets for refreshments and the BSS are on the table.

NEW BUSINESS

Historical plaques – President Shermeyer reported that Ken Brown has agreed to install the historical plaques on the selected homes. Gayle Heagy has prepared a letter to homeowners and it is ready to send out. A question was raised as to what the fee will be for installation and President Shermeyer was unsure of what the fee would be. She will contact Gayle Heagy for details.

Form 990N – President Shermeyer reported she filed the IRS Form 990-N online and it was accepted on March 2. A copy will be given to Treasurer Bill Coleman for his records.

Kay Stitley reported that West Manchester Township Historical Society is taking a bus trip to Wrightsville with Scott Mingus. The limit is 21 persons and anyone interested should contact Zee Kehr.

Church pews – President Shermeyer asked the membership if anyone remembered the old church pews which sat in the old Carousel Building in Brookside Park. Grace Trimmer stated she believes the pews are from the Dover UCC Church on W. Canal Street. President Shermeyer stated she would like to acquire one of the church pews for the GDHS archives, since the pews will not be placed in the new Carousel Building. Further research will be done to determine the origin of the church pews and prior to the sale of the church pews, one church pew will be reserved for the GHDS archives. The membership agreed.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Kay Stitley reported on a gentleman who visited the shop recently who is doing restoration contracting work on a home in Gettysburg near the Eisenhower Farm. This past Tuesday, 13 members of WMHS visited this home which is owned by Gary Schroeder, a mushroom farmer from Kennett Square, and he is restoring the 1860 home to its original condition. The home is completed gutted and after complete restoration will be opened as a B&B. The group would like to visit the home again in October or November to see the home when it is completed. It is believed that ghosts may be in the home, as several workers have reported hearing voices. Our members, Kay Stitley, Randy & Judy Worley, Cindy Snyder and Jo Ott were among the visitors and several photos were taken by Jo. It was a very

interesting and informative visit.

There being no further questions or suggestions from the membership, the meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Koch
GDHS secretary