

Monthly meeting of the Blairstown Historic Preservation Committee was held at 7 p.m. on January 4, 2016, at the Municipal Building, 106 Route 94, Blairstown, New Jersey. The following members were present: Christine Beegle (Chairperson), Barbara Green, Theo Padavano, Lori Nienstedt, Dave Harvey, Martin Miller, Cynthia Montes, and Jeanette Iurato. Township Committee Liaison Steve Lance was present.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Sunshine Statement was read.

Nomination and election of Officers for 2016: Christine Beegle, Chairperson; Wick Mott, Vice Chair; Barbara Green, Recording Secretary; Lori Nienstedt, Corresponding Secretary.

Meeting Minutes of December 7, 2015, were approved.

Social Media and eMailing List Update: Lori reported that there has been substantial interest (with numerous followers) and thanked Cynthia for leading people to our page. Steve Lance indicated that same input would be on the Township website.

Budget requests were discussed (to be forwarded to the CFO). 10-31 cornerstone pedestal proposal was submitted to CFO. At this time, Jeanette asked to have on the record that she was concerned about drilling into the stone. Theo explained that he does this for a living and works with well-known museums; however, he will look into another method of securing the stone. In the meantime, he will inspect the stone.

Upcoming events: Elliott Trommald will speak about John I. Blair at **Blair's Society of Skeptics** on **April 5**. Martin is coordinating this event and will set up with Blair personnel for publicity. BHPC (Theo) will work in conjunction with Blair to publicize. **Month of May will be history month** with displays at Town Hall and involvement with schools. **May 21, Warren County Preservation Day** at Ramsaysburg Historic Homestead. **July 4, Footbridge Park Celebration**. Possible walking tour in May and another in June to coincide with Blair's Alumni Weekend. (Martin will check with Blair personnel.) Summer and October Walking Tours.

Matters discussed:

Website: Jeanette will check her availability as to administering the website and will know better in about 2 weeks. Vouchers will be submitted for names already purchased by Jeanette.

Digitizing of *Blairstown Press* newspapers; discuss with archivists.

BHPC to mentor a Troop #140 Boy Scout for his Eagle Scout project.

Lori is updating the Friends of Blairstown Historic email list and presented ideas for future projects.

Footbridge: application to be submitted for placement on State and National registry of historic places. Lori, Dave and Cynthia will work on this project.

Truck and bus traffic on Main Street: Town is discussing with the County.

Ongoing and New Business:

Status of plaque project and possible additional plaques. Martin will check to see what markers might be on some of the historic buildings at Blair.

Dave Harvey presented plans for renovations at the Presbyterian Church (presently before the Land Use Board). In addition to a new enclosure, an elevator is being installed.

Next meeting: February 1.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Green, Secretary