MINUTES

Stenton Committee

Date | time 9/3/2015 10:30 AM | Meeting called to order by Carol Rush, Stenton Committee Chair

# In Attendance

Carol Rush, Katy Drinkwater, Peggy Shaver, Nina Schaefer, Laura Keim, Jane Foster Willson, Alice Lea Tasman, Dora Rogers, Sally Congdon, Dee Dee Heyward, Anne Burnett, Dorothy Hocker, Gina Whelan, Kaelyn Barr, Dennis Pickeral, and Eleanor Peterson.

# Approval of Minutes

Minutes from May were approved with the following corrections:

1. Under Stenton Chair Report:
* The Garden *Party* went well (replace party with *club)*
* Thank you to Dee Dee *Heyward* (insert Heyward)
1. Director’s Report:
* Dennis Pickeral’s *report* is hereby made a part of the minutes (insert report)
1. Collections:
* Capitalize *Rush,* for Carol Rush.

# President’s Report: *Anne Burnett*

* The 2016 Gala will be Friday November 4, 2016. We will be honoring Alice Lea Tasman. It will be held at the Logan Hotel.
* The Neville House Agreement is signed and delivered.
* *Connections* was mailed out and should be arriving shortly.
* A potential fundraising project could be to create a Stenton cookbook publication, based on examples from other NSCDA sites.

# Museum Properties

No Report

# Stenton Chair Report: *Carol Rush*

* Carol presented a list of “Goals for the Year” (Attached)
	+ Suggested additional goals included:
		- Historical Society of Pennsylvania Fellowship
		- Published Scholarship
			* Deborah’s Diaries
			* Online presence
		- Collections Committee – web presence

# Education Center Committee Report: *Jane Foster Willson*

The final version of the “First Report of the Stenton Education Center Evaluation Committee” was circulated. Conclusions included:

* We will not be renovating the wing. We will try and recapture and interpret the space. This gives a green light to begin small restoration projects on the wing.
* We therefore will be looking to build a new building in a new space. We have not determined *where.*
* The Log House does not tell the important story of Stenton. The committee ultimately recommends finding a new home for the cabin.

This report will be a tool for the next phase of the Education Center project.

There are questions about expansion and sustainability.

* What does increased interpreted space mean for our budget? An additional maintenance endowment would need to be established for the expanded space.
* We have reached the tipping point for our budget and spending practices.
* Are the frugal sensibilities of the society interfering with accommodating increasingly professional staff/programs?

Future possibilities: Inside the fence vs. Outside the fence

* An ideal space is the corner of the park, but it is also the most challenging to accomplish

The Stenton Committee thanks Jane and the SECEC for all of their hard work. This report will be presented to the board on Friday, September 11, with recommendation of the Stenton Committee.

# Collections Committee Report: *Dennis Pickeral*

The tinder lighter campaign has raised $13,000 towards our goal of $20,000. The Logan-Norris reunion will be another opportunity to encourage giving towards this acquisition.

Nina Schaefer suggested looking into printing a 3D model of objects we are trying to acquire, as a gift for larger donors.

# Directors Report: *Dennis Pickeral (Full Report Attached)*

Upcoming Events:

* The Logan-Norris Reunion is taking place on September 11& 12. This will be an opportunity to engage new donors and build relationships for the future.
* The HG “Board Gathering” will be held at La Salle University Art Museum on September 24.
* The Fling for the Wing, which will be held on October 10, 2015, is a joint event with the Society of Colonial Wars. The event will raise money for the wing restoration; as part of the Keystone grant we received, we will need to match the $50k. This will be an informal barbeque event.
* Stenton Halloween Festival will take place on October 31, 1 – 3PM. We will need volunteers and donations for the event.

Friends of Stenton (Carol Rush)

* A small group met over the summer to try and revamp the Friends of Stenton program. We talked about what the value of the program is to participants, and what the goals of the program should be.
* We reworked the appeal envelope and letter. These should be going out in early November. The new envelope includes updated levels.

Madeline is retiring in December. We need to talk about how to honor her service to Stenton. We should honor her at a stated meeting, as well as have a party at Stenton.

Summer visitation: 458 on site visitors, 3,316 web visitors.

# Next Meeting: October 1, 2015