MINUTES

Stenton Committee

Date | time 11/5/2015 10:30 AM | Meeting called to order by Carol Rush, Stenton Committee Chair

# In Attendance

Carol Rush, Alice Lea Tasman, Anne Burnett, Dorothy Hocker, Kaelyn Barr, Dennis Pickeral, Kristin Cahn von Seelen, Dee Dee Heyward, Laura Keim and Sally Congdon.

# Approval of Minutes

Minutes from October were approved. Please note that the October minutes reflect a November 14th orientation which has since been cancelled.

# President’s Report: *Anne Burnett*

* November 14th Orientation for new members has been cancelled due to low attendance.
* The Board meeting will be on November 6th to accommodate the November 13th Ceramics workshop at Stenton.
* The Cincinnati conference was excellent and well attended. There was a lot of useful information.
* The stated meeting speaker for January cancelled due to health issues. Ang Reidell and V. Chapman Smith have agreed to speak instead on National History Day, which the NSCDA/PA supports.

# Museum Properties

* The Cincinnati conference held a panel on Museum Properties. Comparatively, Stenton is very well managed and preserved with respect to NSCDA properties nationwide. The workshop was a little too packed with information, and ultimately was too rushed.

# Stenton Chair Report: *Carol Rush*

* Carol reported that she and the Garden Committee have been working on a Garden Collections Policy for Stenton’s garden. She and several other members of the committee met with staff at Bartram’s Garden and spoke with them about their operations and policies. Carol stated that while the visit was useful, we should be mindful of balancing our resources with what we are realistically capable of accomplishing.

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

* The Fling for the Wing netted about $3600.00 for Wing repairs. An additional positive outcome of the event was the interest of the Society of the Colonial Wars in future support, particularly with respect to History Hunters. The SCW are holding an event in May which will include a visit for wives & significant others to Stenton on May 20th. Any committee members who might be available should help plan and welcome guests.
* Laura will be giving a talk to the Sons of the American Revolution. Perhaps with these various opportunities, we could begin to contact other lineage societies for support for specific projects.
* Stenton site managers Laureen and Martina are moving. We will begin interviews and hire new site managers as soon as possible. We should also update our contracts for tenants as part of this transition.
* The Stenton staff attended the Roundtable conference at Dumbarton in October. It was a great opportunity to network with other staff members from NSCDA properties across the country.
* Dennis met with Nancy Wingo of the Hamilton Family Foundation for History Hunters funding. Trapeta Mayson of Historic Germantown was also in attendance. We discussed the possibility of a new high school program which would be an opportunity to engage high school students in youth leadership activities and programs. Nancy was very excited about the possibility.

# Collections

* The Yellow Lodging Room projects ongoing. Paint analysis is complete and we discovered the 1st finish, which is a bright yellow ochre with flecks of red. There is no evidence of wall paper. Interestingly, the settee at the met also has evidence of fabric that was gold with a red tone. The curtains may be a handstitched project, and as such it could be an opportunity for others, with sewing experience, to help with the project.

# Miscellaneous & Other Business

* Alice Lea reported that the Dames membership is not clear on the progress of the Education Center project. Anne and Carol have been working on talking points for current progress and next steps.
* Alice Lea reported that with respect to the 2016 Gala event, we should focus on Education. Alice Lea also suggested having a live auction at the event, allowing attendees to bid on Stenton projects.

# Next Meeting: December 3, 2015