MINUTES

Stenton Committee

Date | time 11/1/2018 10:30 AM | Meeting called to order by Dora Rogers, Stenton Committee Chair

# In Attendance

Dora Rogers (chair), Sidney Spahr, Hannah Henderson, Carol Rush, Nina Schaefer, Anne Burnett, Betsy Marshall, Joyce Keller, Peggy Conver

Staff in attendance: Laura Keim, Kenny Robinson, Rachel Corma, and Kaelyn Barr

# Minutes

October minutes were approved as written.

# Stenton Chair Report: *Dora Rogers*

* Meeting began with a moment of silence and the Lord’s Prayer.
* Anne Burnett submits for the minutes a thank you to the National Treasurer (Dora) for her hard work and dedication, now that her term is completed.
* Garden Party- The committee decided that the theme should be around Dinah and the Memorial Project. The committee also agreed the Kerchners should be honored in some way.
	+ Anne – George Boudreau’s new book is coming out, and he inquired about coming to the Garden Party. The committee agreed this would be better suited for a book talk at Headquarters.
	+ We would like to ask Irma Gardner-Hammon, who portrays Dinah, to come to the Garden Party in costume.
* Dora posed the question to the committee on how to build the committee membership and participation.
	+ Encourage younger families with kids to come and volunteer at events, as well as take part.
	+ Should try to create a community volunteer committee – might come out of the Dinah project.
	+ Talk to the membership committee about the orientation process for the Society, perhaps they can be encouraging new members to volunteer at events. Should we have a stipulation that new members have to participate in an event at Stenton during their first year?
	+ Dora would like members to find one other person to bring to a committee meeting. She notes the importance of building the committee for succession.
	+ Can we put short descriptions of the committees in Connections and encourage participation? Or perhaps a letter from Barbara as the new President, stating that she is trying to build committees. Can we then follow up via email, with a link to descriptions/how to sign up, etc.?

# Directors Report: *Dora Rogers, Laura Keim, Kaelyn Barr (Full Report Attached)*

* Thank you to everyone especially Alice Lea for your support of the James Logan Award Dinner
* There will be a Historic Germantown (HG) gathering on Nov. 29th for any partner site board members.
* Cultureworks would like HG to be part of a pilot program they are spearheading, which will look at “back end” service solutions for non-profits.
* The HG holiday party will be on December 13th at La Salle University Art Museum, all are welcome.
* Rachel and Dennis attended a workshop at Pew with all of the grant winners for this year. The workshop looked at marketing for our project, *Inequality in Bronze.*
	+ Some of the items of discussion included how to create measurable goals, target audience, etc. & start thinking about what our focus will be.
	+ A marketing meeting with Stenton staff followed up that workshop, where we discussed what would we want to see to show success in terms of the “big picture.” Will talk as a staff next week to try and start brainstorming about specifics.
	+ Something to keep in mind moving forward is inviting collaboration – doing things together with the community instead of for the community.
* Board Retreat- Dina Bailey, of International Coalition for Sites of Conscience, is confirmed for June 14th to speak at the Board Retreat. We will want to invite the Stenton Committee also if we can.
* October Visitation- Site visitation: 1,700, Web page views: 2,260

# Collections Committee: *Laura Keim*

* Laura presented a PowerPoint on Dinah, the historical documentation we have discovered up until now.
* There are a couple of items from the Philadelphia History Museum we might want to acquire that they are deaccessioning sooner rather than later. These items include The Blain Ladderback chair and Sulgrave Manor Relic wood table.

# Education and Program Report: *Kaelyn Barr*

* Peggy Conver wanted us to keep in mind the upcoming 1619 commemoration – the 400th anniversary of the first slaves to America- other museums are offering “healing” history programs, it might be something we want to consider.
* October programs: We had a small group of about 15 for “When the Armies Came to Your House” (Lunch and Learn) and about 30 people for “Foundations and Libations.” Attic Brewing was very gracious, and we hope to partner with them in the future. The Halloween Harvest festival went well despite the bad weather. We had about 100 people in attendance.
* Upcoming Programs:
	+ November 14, *Chippendale Decorative Arts Workshop*
	+ December 1, *Holiday Tea*

# President’s Report: *Barbara Rogers*

* No Report.

# Facilities and Finance Report: *Peggy Conver*

* We are moving ahead with next stage of design for the wing.
	+ Peggy Conver spoke with Macro Project Management about assisting the process of getting the wing project accomplished to have assistance with very intense process.
	+ Finance committee –we will be spreading Gala funds over 3 years instead of 2 years. We are meeting at Pennsylvania Trust to talk about investments and accounting for Gala funds and Pew Project.

# Garden Committee Report: *Carol Rush*

* Carol reports that the Garden Committee continues to work well together, solving problems such as weeds growing in the brick walkways and in the driveway and the garden storage shed flooding. Thanks to Ken Robinson, Jeff Eckel and Dawn Reid for all their hard work!
* The lobelia and spegelia Marylandica planted at the Logan Memorial are doing nicely. The shrubs planted near the “new” gate suffered somewhat due to the weed control treatment of the driveway, but all should survive.
* Awbury Arboretum removed the downed tree limb opposite the mansion’s front door. We continue to have a good relationship with this HG partner.
* We have selected American Holly trees to be planted in the screen next spring. It is too late in the fall to plant them at this time. These are the trees purchased with a generous gift from Augusta Lienager.
* Look for new narcissus and tulips in the Colonial Revival garden in the spring! Susan Yeager has been busy planting bulbs purchased through Brent & Becky’s Bulbs, our fundraising partner.
* We are always looking for new members and/or volunteers. Susan Yeager is developing a new contact with Drexel University. Drexel freshman must participate in a civic engagement class which requires a volunteer component. Who better to work for than Stenton, as we undertake our own civic engagement on the Dinah project!

# Meeting Adjourned at 12:16. Next Meeting: December 6, 2018