MINUTES

Stenton Committee

Date | time 10/6/2016 10:30 AM | Meeting called to order by Carol Rush, Stenton Committee Chair

# In Attendance

Jane Foster Willson, Gina Whelan, Carol Rush, Betsy Marshall, Nina Schaefer, Anne Burnett

Staff in attendance: Dennis Pickeral, Laura Keim and Kaelyn Barr

# Minutes

Minutes for September were approved with one correction:

Under the Collections Committee, change “rehabilitation” to “conservation” with respect to the Emlen chairs.

Minutes were approved with a motion by Anne Burnett, 2nd by Betsy Marshall.

# President’s Report: *Anne Burnett*

* The program at the National Constitution Center on October 5th was wonderful. It was very exciting for the organization to be a part of such a substantive conversation and program. We should look for other ways to collaborate. The Aylward Lecture may be an opportunity to partner in the future.
	+ Gina mentioned that in Boston, the Society held a program on “women and dissent,” which could perhaps be a topic for the future.
* Preparations are being made for Biennial, which takes place the third weekend in October. Anne noted that she will be presenting on the PA Society’s “Baby Dames” program. There will be a skit on Saturday evening.

# Museum Properties

* No Report

# Stenton Chair Report: *Carol Rush*

* Carol updated the committee on the status of the wing restoration project, noting the upcoming meeting of the Historic Structures Committee on October 18th at 9:30.
	+ Funds from the Restoration Fund will need to be used to complete the project.
* Friends of Stenton will be in a new format this year, and should be completed in the coming weeks. (A draft copy was circulated during the meeting for review.)
* The Gala will likely exceed our income goal. We should consider whether we want to extend a complimentary invitation, to anyone, as we will likely have extra seats that have already been paid for.
* The Stenton committee discussed a plan for the garden moving forward. The committee would like to recommend hiring Susan Yeager to do some work if funds are available.

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

* Dennis circulated a summary of income for the 2016-17 season to update the committee on incoming funds to date. One item to start tracking is donations received through social media and web platforms, such as AmazonSmile and Groupon.
	+ It was noted that at the December Stated Meeting, we should have a brief explanation of how to participate in AmazonSmile.
* The Historic Germantown House Tour is coming up on October 16th.
* The Mid-Atlantic Plantations conference is planned for the fall of 2018. We may want to do some site visits as part of that conference. Jane also suggested that part of the conference could be considering how the Native Americans were affected by the development of these plantations.

September visitation: On site, 152; Web, 627.

# Collections Committee: *Laura Keim*

* Loudoun collection items will be coming to Stenton after the items are deaccessioned at Loudoun. We will be receiving lots of smaller items, some which will fill holes in our current collection. Some of the furnishings were meant for Headquarters. We will request a walkthrough of Loudoun to view the items before they come to Stenton.
* The Yellow Lodging Room process is moving along. The dye process is almost complete. We hope the wood of the bed will be covered with fabric by the date of the symposium. The symposium itself will be a good opportunity to bring people into the deconstructed process.

# Education and Program Report: *Kaelyn Barr*

* A Program Committee meeting was held in September. The goal is for program planning to be more collaborative between the Dames and Stenton staff moving forward. (See Program Calendar attachment.)
	+ Gina suggested that we have a program on the evolution of food and place settings through the centuries.
* History Hunters is underway, with a record 3,000 children signed up to participate this year.
* We will be piloting a curriculum component involving the meadow with five classes this fall.
* A working group of partner sites (Wyck, Awbury, Grumblethorpe and Stenton) has been established to begin planning for a science-based History Hunters expansion.
* The Garden Party in May will have a “Yellow” theme in honor of the Yellow Lodging Room Project. It was suggested to create a signature yellow drink called “The Old Fustic,” after the yellow dye color.
* It was suggested that we try to survey the membership about program content and participation with Stenton programs.

# Next Meeting: November 3, 2016