Minutes

Stenton Committee

June 4, 2015

Present: Anne Burnett, Kristin Cahn von Seelen, Dennis Pickeral, Carol Rush, Kaelyn Taylor, Nina Schaefer, Gina Whelan, Jane Foster Willson, Alice Lea Tasman and Sally Congdon

Minutes: Minutes from May were approved with the following corrections:

* Under the President’s report, Oklahoma *hosted* the regional meeting.

President’s Report:

* Regional Meeting Organizers have requested an agenda for 2018. Further details will be discussed at the June 12th board meeting. Possibilities include a tour of the American Revolution Museum. We will be duplicating the same schedule as the Oklahoma super regional meeting.
* The June 14th tea for the 1891 Society will likely be rescheduled due to low RSVP’s.

Museum Properties

* We are still trying to work with Woodville on their loan agreement. Sally suggested we send Laura as a museum consultant to assist if necessary.
  + Question of accessioning collections on loan at Woodville. Many objects were purchased by the Allegheny County members such as Anne Genter. Ownership of some items could be questionable. There are also Stenton objects on loan. If any of our collections are removed, we must verify ownership.

Stenton Chair Report:

* Stenton is the Founders Fund Award Winner! The Stenton Committee extends a gracious thank you to all of the garden club members who were so involved with the proposal.
  + Carol will write thank you notes to garden club members who helped with the proposal. The Garden Club of America will be coming to Stenton on June 18th to see the site and celebrate the award.
* The Garden Club went very well. We had over 200 guests. We did not make our goal of $15,000, so we will need to make up for that somewhere in the budget.
  + Ideas for next year: consider moving food tables to the center of the tent; try to pass food at the party; may want to raise ticket prices; start early, recruit early, and list benefactors on the invitation, with donor levels/categories.
  + Alice Lea suggested an auction for projects, as the Historical Society of PA has done in the past; guests can bid on projects for the museum.
  + Special thank you to Susanna Cahn von Seelen and Jeff Story for providing the music.
  + Thank you to Dee Dee and the Flower Committee for the arrangements.

Director’s Report: Dennis Pickeral is hereby made a part of these minutes. (See Directors Report for additional details):

* We met with Trapeta Mayson, HG Executive Director, to discuss a potential high school age collaborative educational program.
* Development:
  + Kevin Kerchner and his company, Aphena Pharma Solutions, has pledged $10,000 for History Hunters
  + We have reached out to the Hamilton Family Foundation about a major gift of $200k a year for five years, for the education center.
  + We will be holding the Logan Family Reunion on September 11th and 12th. An invitation will be going out soon. It will be free with the option to donate, with the hope that future development opportunities will emerge from this event.
  + We will be having a fall fundraiser, “Fling for the Wing” with the Society of the Colonial Wars, to raise funds for the wing renovations. It will be an informal, late afternoon event with fall décor, barbeque food and craft beer. The Young Dames will be asked to be more involved in the planning.
  + A draft of the report for the Education Center Committee has been circulated. Please provide feedback by the board meeting on June 12.
* May visitation: On-site visitation: 378, Web visits: 1,374

Collections:

* We would like to move forward with fund raising for the tinder lighter. We should compile list of potential donors this summer
* May want to consider a small campaign for collections fund donors- it is challenging for us to react quickly at auction without having sufficient funds ready
* Carol rush added that the collections policy for the garden needs structure and clear goals.

Upcoming Events:

Sept 11-12 – Logan/Norris Family reunion

Oct 10 – Fling for the Wing

Respectfully submitted,

Kaelyn Taylor