MINUTES

Stenton Committee

Date | time 3/1/2018 10:00 AM | Meeting called to order by Kristin Cahn von Seelen, Stenton Committee Chair

# In Attendance

Kristin Cahn von Seelen, Shari Egan, Anne Burnett, Eleanor Peterson, Julia King, Nina Schaefer, Hannah Henderson, Alice Lea Tasman, Peggy Conver, Sidney Spahr, Betsy Marshall, Gwen Bryant, Carol Rush, Lee Manonian

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

# Minutes

Minutes for March were approved as written.

# Stenton Chair Report: *Kristin Cahn von Seelen*

* After a moment of silence, introductions were given for the benefit of new members to the committee.
* Kristin announced that she will be moving to Switzerland in June. She will be staying on board through the last board meeting in June. A group is meeting next week to talk about a replacement chair.
* Garden Party preparations are moving along.
  + Thank you to Betsy for offering to get balloons for the street.
  + Raffle items are being assembled – 1) needlepoint box commissioned by Peggy Conver, stitched by Carol Rush, Gina Whelan is providing box, polished silver vessels with flowers will be included; 2) watercolor for invitation matted and framed, also with potted flowers; 3) large basket with JL reproduction glass bottles, cordial glasses and Elderflower liquor & linen cocktail napkins.
  + Program will focus on unveiling the memorial. All will be invited to go and look at the unveiling after the remarks.
  + Susanna will play the violin in the house.

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

* Update on replacement for Sarah – unfortunately the candidate we wanted to hire accepted another position, so the search is still ongoing.
* HG is also beginning the search process for a new Executive Director. Interim Director is Stacy Swigart.
* May 12th – Second Saturdays festival.
* June 21st - Germantown Hall of Fame – Ken Weinstein, Jim Duffin, and Betty Turner are being honored.
* The new roof on the Wing is complete. Copper material should last 100yrs. Some painting and window restoration has to be wrapped up. Stenton mansion roof will be the next big project in the next couple of years.
* James Logan award dinner update: goal for sponsorships is $160k, $120 has been confirmed. Thank you to everyone who has given or pledged, or volunteered their time to help plan the event.
* A new History Hunters video will be debuted at the event.
* Cultural fund grant came through. Waiting on Pew and Hamilton. If we do get these grants, full presentations to the membership about the projects would help members to understand and engage with the projects.
* Upcoming June 20th – PCGCA having a meeting here at Stenton, NSCDA/PA members are encouraged to come and welcome the group.
* Visitation- Site visitation: 653, Web page views: 2,526

# Collections Committee: *Laura Keim*

* Logan memorial is coming in the next week or so, weather permitting.
* We are continuing to clean out the third floor with interpretive goals for our mid-Atlantic plantations conference – we would like to have an interpreted room on the third floor. We would also like to create an exhibit in the kitchen – show more archaeological collections.
* Laura has completed and submitted an article on house museums for an AASLH book.
* Relics in Germantown article in edited volume of Material World – life of things in early America – Penn State University Press.
* Laura is writing about the Yellow Lodging Room for the Textile History Forum in June.

# Education and Program Report: *Kaelyn Barr*

* We held two programs in March, the Poetry Workshop, which was excellent; and the Egg Hunt, which was very well attended at about 600 visitors. The Egg Hunt also had excellent media coverage, airing on NBC and KYW.
* Our upcoming programs include:
  + April 5th: Heritage Plants and Historic Sites, Claudia Levy and Denis Lucey
  + May 10th: Garden Party
  + June 14th, Shellwork program
  + July 4th Celebration

# President’s Report: *Anne Burnett*

* We have reached our minimum registration numbers for the conference which were needed for our food and beverage minimums. A reminder for observer ticket and hostess/volunteer positions has just gone out.
* Anne outlined the itinerary for the conference weekend. We will need time keepers/logistics helpers for the different events.

# Facilities and Finance Report: *Jane Foster Willson for Peggy Conver*

* The Budget Committee is finalizing the budget for next fiscal year. It will be presented to the Board next Friday.
* Wing renovations update: we will be working with the Historical Commission after the Garden Party.
* Headquarters update: The elevator and other renovations will be a very large project, but has a large impact on our ability to retain and attract new members, rent the facility, etc. Might have to be a capital campaign to raise the funds, we are still in planning discussions.

# Garden and Landscape Committee, *Carol Rush*

* Peggy and Carol would like to try and raise funds through the needlepoint kits for the garden. We will be taking orders at the Garden Party and sell kits at the conference.
* We had a Garden Committee meeting today – everyone on the committee is very enthusiastic but we need more dames representation. We do need more volunteers to help in the garden as well.
* There will be grass around the memorial and a mown path to the Memorial through the meadow. Spigilia (Indian Pink) will be planted around the grass.
* Tulips that were donated by Sonya Driscoll and planted last fall are starting to come up.

# Next Meeting: May 3, 2018