

Ardsley Historical Society Meeting
via Zoom
January 18, 2022
Minutes

Attendees: M. Arone, G. Calvi, J. Damascus, B. DeAngelo, P. Fontaine, P. Marcus, R. Pellegrino, B. Preisser, Gary Rappaport, Steve Wittenberg.

Webmaster Blake Rappaport

The meeting convened at 7:32pm.

A. Old Business

President Peter Marcus asks for a motion to approve the minutes from the December 14th board meeting. Barbara makes a motion, second by George. All in favor.

Review Action Items- #90 (Peter) Nothing new has been done with the Radomski leather works.
#91 (Matt) Ardsley Little League has not solicited us for a sponsorship yet.
#92 (Peter) New banners have arrived. The larger one will be reused. Both banners will be hung together this year. Total cost \$110.00.

B. New Business

Announcements (Peter)

Future meetings could be either in-person or via Zoom. We will follow the village's protocols. Right now, the village is not holding in-person meetings.

A large donation from the Ardsley Fire Department was received in honor of our 40th Anniversary. The check amount was from \$400.00. Peter wrote a thank you note to AFD.

2022 Board Meeting dates (Peter)

Normally 3rd Tuesday of each month. The February meeting date is currently scheduled for February 15th, but Peter might have a conflict which would change it to the 22nd. March 15, April 19 and June 21st will be regular meetings. The May meeting is our annual meeting month and a Sunday will be chosen (May 15 or 22). We also might have a regular weekly prep-meeting that month.

Membership (Peter)

83 renewed or joined first time thus far. (5 were new). Total \$2,685 in dues plus another \$443 in donations. Peter will help reach out and encourage the business to renew. Mima's Pizza II is a new sponsor we welcome (in the location formerly occupied by Bella's). Renewals from Bernie, Matt, Henry, Peter, Gary, James and William have been received.

Annual Report (Peter)

Peter will present to the BOT at their February 7th meeting. He will send a draft to the board members to review, proof, make additions, etc. Please send all reviews back this week.

RW250 (Peter)

E-mails have been sent out to membership with all programs and events. This Sunday (1/23), the Dobbs Ferry Historical Society will be sponsoring "Hostesses to History."

A second video series called, "Revolutionary People-Patriots and Loyalists" has been released.

RW250 president Connie Kehoe says there is potential county grant money available that we can use toward the fees for reenactors for special events. Peter spoke to Sean Grady at the middle school regarding this. Unfortunately, the school no longer runs a colonial day. Gary suggested we use the grant money for a different project or program on a more current topic.

Calendar (Peter)

Peter thanks Barbara again for all her hard work. Positive feedback has been received. Pierre and Barbara deserve thanks for helping stuff the calendars prior to mailing. Peter mentioned his friend Michael DeSimone helped him get the calendars to the post office. Some calendars were hand delivered in certain local neighborhoods which helped save some money on postage.

Newsletter (George)

The spring newsletter is upcoming, but it is too early to do much at this point. Ideas from former fire chiefs Rick Thompson and Patrick Lindsay to do another "Fire Chief stories" article is being discussed. The Panther group from the school has not followed up with George so that idea might be done with. Andy DiJusto promised to submit a story. A discussion was held regarding an article regarding former Ardsley High School teacher Dan Mullholland who just passed away this week.

Historical markers (Peter)

A photo of the second historical marker (American Camp) was shown to the group. Looks the same as the Ardsley Train Station sign. Both markers will be installed in the Spring.

Emails to Membership (Peter/Blake)

Blake has been doing a great job sending the e-mails. The most recent e-mails have been for a membership push, Happy Holidays, 40th Anniversary and program registration.

Programs (Gary)

All set for Sunday, January 30th, 2022 for the US Navy (what is our modern Navy and the history of the US Navy). It will be virtual. Blake says there is a low response so far. The maximum of attendees is 97.

Discussion

Increase Visibility of our Organization—Peter will reach out to Charles at village hall to find out how/when the banner(s) can be hung.

Digitization/searchability of our newsletters—Gary is investigating a new company called Advantage Archives which has better features. 20 cents per page. We can view samples from the Saugerties Library website. No hosting cost has yet been determined.

Miscellaneous items:

Discussion about the condition on the existing historical signs in the village and whether to purchase protective covers.

Rob mentioned that Pierre has done a great job with a 1-hour video from the walking tours adding many additional pictures and features. A discussion on how should the society use the video moving forward occurred. Group agrees it should be available for members only.

Blake mentions we have 1,000 page views and 600 visitors in the last 30 days on the website. He would like all the members in attendance to logn to their society e-mail accounts once in a while so it doesn't go dormant.

Peter asks for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bernie makes the motion to adjourn, Rob seconds it. Meeting adjourned at 8:34pm.

Next meeting date: February 15, 2022 (unless Peter has a conflict)

Respectfully submitted by Matt Arone

