

Friends of the Grange

[Minutes Link](#)

Date & Time posted: 11/13/2023 @ 1316

Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, August 03, 2023

Location: Grange Estate, 143 Myrtle Ave., Havertown

Time: 6:30 P.M.

**FRIENDS OF THE GRANGE
BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING
August 3, 2023**

The Board of Managers Meeting was called to order by President Kathy Parkinson, at 6:32 P.M. in the drawing room of the Mansion.

PRESENT: Bill Parkinson, Kathy Parkinson, Chad Brooks, Jeanine Rastatter, Joe Rastatter, Scott Selkowitz, Terri Dougherty, Debbie Cipolla, Jim Petrokubi, Bev Rorer, Carolyn Bonass, Fran McGarrity, Cathy DiGirolamo

EXCUSED: Kathy Owsik

The Minutes of the June 6, 2023 were read and motion to approve the minutes was made by Bev Rorer and Terri Dougherty seconded. All were in favor.

It was noted that Poly, our Magic Man, who brought so much excitement to the children at the Grange, is very sick. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

Treasurer's Report: Jim Petrokubi reported that we will be doing a monthly year to date moving forward. So far this year we are showing a loss of \$1138.00. For the month ending July 31, 2023, our total checking account is showing \$150,872.00. Total expense for the month is \$1,224.77, and the net income for the month is -\$1,379.42. He noted that there was not much income this past month and that we did have expenses in the Garden and Exterminating. There was one donation of \$150.00.

He also noted that we will now be reporting to the Township at the end of the year, December 31.

Bill Parkinson motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report and Scott Selkowitz seconded. All were in favor.

Eagle Scout Project: Ethan Flood joined us tonight and explained that he will be doing a project that will involve building a library at the Main path that leads up

to the parking lot. He is hoping to complete his project by the third week in August. He also mentioned that he would like to do an additional library, for adult/children. It was noted that he might need additional wood, and if so, to let us know and we will help with any material that is needed. Good luck, Ethan.

Strategic Planning: Scott noted that things are all falling into place. The new They are setting up new policies for renting the venue. Also discussed the Gala and Holiday party. The By-Laws have been sent to Kathy Parkinson. He mentioned that he is looking for an accountant that has quickbooks knowledge and would be able to convert to cloud base. One interested accountant 's rate would be \$200.00 an hour.

Maintenance and Upkeep: Kathy Parkinson mentioned that the front walk, and the steps were completed. The porch will be painted, starting August 21st. The amphitheater is still being discussed with the township and the engineers.

Township Representatives: Sad news came to us regarding Rachelle Nocito, She had two strokes recently. She is doing better physically but it will take some time for recovery. Her son will keep in touch with us as to her progress. Currently, she is on in definite leave from her position as one of the township representatives as she is recovering from this. It was agreed to send off a \$100.00 gift card to her. We all here at the Grange wish her the very best. Keep her in your thoughts and prayers.

New Business:

Kathy P. sat down with Jane Travers and learned that Robert, her husband will be needing a kidney transplant. His kidneys have been failing and they are hoping to be able to do this procedure before him needing dialysis. We wish Robert and Jane the best for a quick fix and recovery. We will be offering all our support to them both. They are truly special people to all of us.

Kathy will be presenting plans for the upcoming Spring Gala, which is commemorating 50 years at the Grange– which will probably be held in April 2024. We will be looking for quite a few volunteers to help out with planning and the night of the event. There was discussion as to forming a committee for the Spring Gala and in the meantime to start recruiting for more volunteers. All

volunteers need. It was also noted that when bringing volunteers in to do work, whether outside or inside, it is good to let someone at the office or Kathy know about it, especially for insurance reasons, in the case of a mis-hap.

Debbie Cipolla and Kathy P. have been discussing the Christmas Party. We will be changing the “membership” being at no cost if you attended. For this year, it looks like we will have to stay on board with it, but coming up for 2024, the change will be set in place. Most Board Members were in favor of keeping the Christmas Party going. It always was a care-free night, but a fun night being with everyone. It was very festive. It was agreed to have the party on Thursday night, December 7, 2023. There will be no Board meeting that month.

GIFT SHOP: - Carolyn and Kathy P. spoke about the possibility of merchandising the Gift Shop to feature new items which would increase the revenue. It was decided that merchandise that pertains to the Grange, i.e. magnets, ornaments, tote bags, etc. would be relocated to inside the Mansion for the Holiday season. Volunteers will be recruited to welcome visitors into the Mansion, take tour payments and Grange merchandise payments so that the tour guides can continue with tours. The Shop will remain open as is and a discussion about the merchandising of the Shop will be tabled till early 2024. Bill P. motioned to have the merchandise brought into the Mansion, Bev Rorer seconded. All were in favor. (

CHAIR REPORTS:

Book Club – Jeanine noted the upcoming meeting will be held on Tuesday night, August 15, 2023 at 7 PM. She is expecting at least 12 people.

Attic Treasures – Jeanine noted that she is thinking about incorporating the sale with the Colonial experience day rather than a separate sale in April. As of this point she is not sure of all the details.

Bees: Bev Rorer noted that we are not having a good time with the bee hives. She checks the hives weekly, but it looks like one neighbor will end up donating 50 pounds of honey and someone else donated another hive and also 40 more pounds of honey. Bev noted that she will be handing in all of her bills at one time after the honey sale, which is being held on Saturday, August 5, 2023 from 9-noon, and she is hoping it will be a success. She also mentioned that the extractor that she got is not working so she will be going back to Paradise to get it up and running..

Buildings, Gardens and Grounds: Terri Dougherty does not have much to report. Other than a lot of weeding and plant work has been going on. She mentioned that there will be temporary signs put up for the bee/honey sale.

House: Debbie mentioned that Betty Graham's doll was here with us at the meeting. She will be putting it up in the Nanny's room with a picture and name plate on it. Debbie also found a Christmas pillow of Betty's that has her monogram on it, and will make sure that it is displayed at Christmas time, along with a Santa that belong to her, and Chad will make sure that it is out with all of his other Santa's. There was talk about setting up the Board Room in her memory and honor.

Membership: Kathy Owsik is not here tonight. Nothing to report.

Trains: Bill Parkinson noted that he got another volunteer. He will be meeting with her this weekend. He is working on many ting, but mostly on how to set things up with fewer steps to the long barn.

Township Representatives – Joe Rastatter said they are working on Discover Haverford, which will be in early January 2024. It usually runs from 5:30-7:30 PM. The possible rain date will be January 10, 2024.

All Hands on Deck – October 22, 2023

Colonial Experience – October 15, 2023.

Bev Rorer motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:204P.M., Scott Selkowitz seconded. All were in favor.

Next Board of Manager's Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 7, 2023.