

January 14, 2019 Historical Advisory Committee Meeting

Members Present: Carolyn Gant, Monica Zuba, Colin McLain, Henry Kobik, Delores Simkins, Carol Coulbourn

Members Absent: Joe Darminio, Joe Bilinski, Frank Pfrommer, Kathryn Saxton-Granato
Notified in advance of her absence,

Guest Present: Mary Petsch-Wilson

The January 14, 2019 meeting of the Historical Advisory Committee was called to order at 7:05 p.m. in the History Center by Chairman Carol Coulbourn. There was no meeting in December. The January meeting had been postponed for 1 week.

Mrs. Coulbourn reported that the Christmas at the Center had been a successful event and lots of people visited the History Center and the Railroad Station. Some of the items that had been displayed were still being displayed; the others had been removed on last Wednesday before the meeting.

Mrs. Coulbourn informed members of the following upcoming events: (1) Thursday, January 17th the Library was hosting a program on vinyl records at 6:30 p.m. in the Great Room. There will be a guest speaker and guest are encouraged to bring along a record or two. Registration was required and could be made by calling the Library at 856-694-2833. She noted she was planning to attend. (2) Saturday & Sunday April 6th & 7th is the Library Book Sale and she would have the History Center open on Saturday. The book sale brings in a large number of people to the Center. (3) Wednesday, April 3rd our Historical Committee will be hosting the Historical Round Table. The Round Table consists of Historical groups in the South Jersey Area. *NOTE The meeting is the first Wednesday in April, not the 17th that was noted at our meeting.

Mrs. Kathryn Saxton Granato e-mailed information for the NJ History and Heritage Community inviting people to join Crossroads and the NJ Historical Commission on January 29th at 12:30 p.m. for the next update session on planning for New Jersey's celebration of the 250th anniversary of the United States. The meeting will be held through Go To Meeting and telephone conference to enable as many people as possible to attend without having to travel to a central meeting site. Details on how to participate will be published on the Crossroads website as the meeting draws closer. She also reported she would be attending another hearth cooking class at the Whitall House.

Mrs. Coulbourn reminded members that the Township will be 200 years old in 2020 and suggested it would be nice to perhaps have a commemorative ornament, similar to the one the Franklinville Methodist Church had for their 175th anniversary. It could have the Township shield on it with 1820 – 2020 engraved on it.

Members were all enthused about the idea. Mr. Kobik suggested we could have a Christmas tree at Community Day with the ornaments displayed for sale.

Mrs. Coulbourn stated she purchased several ornaments from the Church to use as gifts. She stated she would contact the individual that ordered the ornaments to obtain information.

Mrs. Coulbourn suggested that it would be nice to have a special event each month during the year 2020. She informed members that for the Township's 175th anniversary, they had a Ben Franklin impersonator at the reorganization meeting in January. Perhaps the schools could have some type of contest and organizations could also be encouraged to participate. She also stated she wanted to have tee shirts made up with the Township logo and 1820 – 2020 printed on them.

Members suggested contacting the schools about the 200th anniversary and encouraging them to participate in some way. The Township calendar could feature “now and then” photos, with pictures how things looked long ago, and how they look now. They also discussed various things we no longer use, such as, flash bulbs, old wind up movie cameras, old rotary dial telephones, chamber pots, out houses, and hand cranks to start cars, among other things. Discussion was also held on how our cell phones have come to be able to function as cameras, GPS systems, calculators, watches, timers, and multiple other functions.

Mr. Kobik suggested a theme such as something similar to “eyes to the past, looking to the future”.

Mr. McLain sketched out 2020 with eyes looking to the past and the future.

Mr. Kobik and Mr. McLain examined an old 8 mil meter movie camera. Mrs. Coulbourn noted she had the projector, camera, light bar with the original box, and viewing screen she would donate or offer to give away if someone wanted to try and sell it on e-bay. After checking it was determined that it had little monetary value, but might be interesting as a display item.

Members were encouraged to think about ways to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Township of Franklin starting in January of 2020 and throughout the entire year.

Upon motion by Mr. Kobik seconded by Mrs. Gant and carried the meeting was ordered adjourned at 8:25 p.m. All members voted in the affirmative.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Coulbourn