

**LOWER MERION HISTORICAL SOCIETY
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
JUNE 29, 2017
MINUTES**

Present: Jerry Francis, Bobbie McElroy, Christina Fink, Leon Levine, Gary Brock, Ken Brier, Martha Moffat, Max Buten, Bruce Cooper Gill and Carole Strickland

Guests: Michelle Harrison, Jeremy D. Harrison, Roger Talley, Debby Talley and Brad Upp

Excused Absences: Pete Hoskins, Perrin Hamilton, Joanne Murray and Louis Barson

President Jerry Francis called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m. following which Vice President Ken Brier led the Pledge of Allegiance. President Francis then asked that we go around the table and introduce ourselves.

Michelle and Jeremy Harrison identified as the new Cynwyd Station apartment occupants with Mr. Harrison as the new caretaker. The Talley guests are the parents of Michelle Harrison.

Ken Brier moved the Minutes of the April 26, 2017 Annual Meeting be approved; seconded by Gary Brock and unanimously approved.

President's Report: President Francis then stated the Merion Friends History Festival was a great success, and the "Horse Company" table was well received.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Levine explained that, in an attempt to make his report clearer, he was presenting a Budget Summary (as of May 31, 2017) rather than a Balance Sheet. The money received from the "Horse Company" created a one-time distortion of our income. A question was raised concerning the lack of reported copier expenses which Treasurer Levine will query with our accountant. Gary Brock moved and Ken Brier seconded a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. The motion was unanimously approved.

President Francis reported he'd received the Society's Commonwealth of Pennsylvania non-profit registration certificate and the Lower Merion Township Business Privilege License.

Financial Review Committee: The Committee's report is anticipated at the September meeting.

Database Administration/Newsletter: In the absence of Joanne Murray, President Francis reported that everything is going fine.

Library: President Francis reported that Ted Goldsborough, Max Buten and Bob McCormick are at our Academy Building Library every Wednesday night and Saturday afternoon serving the

public. The Philadelphia Inquirer is going to be doing some stories using library resources. And the upcoming Lower Merion Township Annual Report should be out in about two weeks, using the history booklet format previously created by the Society.

Website/Facebook/YouTube: Our website, which was started in 2000, continues to receive 600-900 visits per day. The entire site will be moved to the MetaTechnical server very shortly. President Francis and Joanne Murray have had discussions with Greg Naylor on modernization including, but not limited to, website redesign. President Francis reported the Society would receive the company's not for profit rate and requested authorization to expend an amount with MetaTechnical not to exceed \$2,500 for said modernization/upgrading. Martha Moffat moved and Christina Fink seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Membership: It was reported that second notices were sent to those not yet paid for 2017 on June 9th. We have 67 paid members and another 67 who have not paid current membership.

Programs: Among the Fall 2017 anticipated programs is Bryn Mawr Day scheduled for September 9. Bobbie McElroy reported she will be leading three bus tours. President Francis reported the Autocar annual luncheon is being planned and the 199th Horse Company Banquet is scheduled for November 4th at the Cynwyd Club. Among the programs being planned for 2018 are the Annual Merion Friends Meeting Festival for either May 12th or 19th and the November 11th 100th anniversary of Armistice Day (now Veterans Day) when we will be partnering with Merion War Tribute House, which will also be partnering with the Levering Mill Tribute House. After some discussion, it was the general consensus of the Board that Merion Friends Meeting should take the lead in putting on its Festival.

Property: President Francis reported the School District is maintaining the Academy Building. New Cynwyd Station caretakers and upstairs tenants Jeremy and Michelle Harrison again introduced themselves and reported the station gutters have been cleaned of leaves and debris.

Public Relations: Nothing to report.

Publications/Videos: President Francis read the written report submitted to him by Perry Hamilton concerning equipment status. Video of the Horse Company dinner and the Merion Friends History Festival are now on a hard drive.

Old Business: A meeting will take place at Horse Company Committee Chairperson Christina Fink's house on the evening of Thursday, July 20th to discuss ideas on assimilation. Bruce Gill, Jerry Francis, Christina Fink, Brad Upp, Ken Brier, Bobbie McElroy and Carole Strickland expressed interest in attending. This year, the original Society will still be involved with the annual banquet. We have yet to receive the Society's membership list.

The Board confirmed through general consensus that it is not currently interested in re-activating Merion Lodge No. 210 as requested in correspondence from the Office of the Grand Secretary of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Pennsylvania.

New Business: Brad Upp gave a brief summary of the history and circumstances of Camp Spring Mill/Camp Discharge, located in Gladwyne on the current Philadelphia Country Club (“PCC”) site. He was able to locate a panoramic view of the camp at the Pennsylvania Historical Society, which the Harrison’s were able to digitize so as to enhance the image. President Francis, along with Ken Brier and Brad Upp, met with PCC staff June 13th about the possibility of a metal detector search and dedicating a plaque perhaps this Fall to honor the veterans. Permission of the PCC Board of Directors would be needed.

President Francis reported he and Ann Bagley are working on a “History of the Schuylkill River: West Manayunk (Belmont Hills) and Pencoyd presentation, as he was approached to do a program with original research.

Mr. Francis also asked for volunteers for the Historical Society table at the NCBC 4th of July Celebration.

The meeting was adjourned at 9 p.m.

The next Executive Board Meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, September 13th at 7:30 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,

Carole Z. Strickland, Acting Secretary