

Minutes for June 1, 2015 NJLA History & Preservation Section Meeting held at Warren County Library, Headquarters Branch, Belvidere, NJ.

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 AM on June 1, 2015. In attendance were Section President Danny Klein, Vice President/President Elect Deb Schiff, Secretary Ken Kaufman, and Members at-Large E. Kim Adams and Sarah Hull.

Also in attendance were Bruce Bardarik, John Beekman, Tim Corlis, Jessica Myers, and Fernanda Perrone.

Introductions were made.

Minutes

The minutes of February 25, 2015, November 20, 2014 and October 8, 2014 were reviewed. Danny received word that the February 25th minutes did not mention the co-sponsors for the meeting and program. Ken amended these minutes with the addition. Danny motioned that the February 25th (as amended), November 20th, and October 8th minutes be accepted. The motion was seconded and the minutes were approved.

Committee Reports

Sarah, as editor, announced new quarterly publication months for "The Chronicle" in the upcoming year. New months will be January, April, July, and October, which will better coincide with the history events and programs of member organizations. As a result, the submission deadline for the next issue has been pushed forward to July 10th.

Ken will send the language for the Bylaw review change to Sarah to be published in the next issue of "The Chronicle".

Danny reported his presentation of the Susan Schwartzburg Award at the NJLA Annual Conference on April 21, 2015. This year's winner was Deborah Mercer of the New Jersey State Library. He also provided nomination information for the Roger McDonough Librarianship Award. To learn more about the award or nominating a candidate, contact Gary Saretzky at the Monmouth County Archives. The deadline for submitting a nomination form is September 1, 2015.

Old Business

Danny is considering how to move forward with the local history census project, and will reintroduce the idea at a later date.

New Business

Danny introduced our officers and executive board for the 2015-16 year. They are as follows:

Deb Schiff, Chester Library and Plainfield Library -- President
Carolyn Dorsey, Morristown and Morris Township Library -- Vice President/President-Elect
Ken Kaufman, Somerset County Library -- Secretary
Paul Martinez, Montclair State University -- Member-at-large
Fernanda Perrone, Rutgers University -- Member-at-large
Tim Corlis, Rutgers University -- Member-at-large
Helen Beckert, Glen Ridge Public Library -- Member-at-large

As a result of the slate having all unopposed candidates, NJLA did not create an election ballot for it. In lieu of an official vote, Danny motioned that the slate be nominated without objection. The motion was seconded and approved.

Danny received feedback that some members are not included in our new Google Groups Listserv. Jessica and Deb have forwarded a membership list to Danny, so he can send out a formal invitation to anyone who is not currently subscribed to it.

Announcements

Danny passed on Gary Saretzky's information regarding Archives and History Day at the Monmouth County Archives. Exhibitor tables are available for the October 3rd event. The Monmouth County Library will have an exhibit titled, "New Jersey in Focus: The World War I Era: 1910-1920". Activities include a plenary session, a tour of the archives, a history forum discussion on Fort Monmouth during WWI, and a speech from Melissa Ziobro of Monmouth University.

Sarah made known an exhibition at Plainfield Public Library on the clubs and organizations of Plainfield, featuring the Monday Afternoon Club and the Freemasons. She also announced the retirement of the library's Executive Director, Joe Da Rold, at the end of August. Among his many accomplishments, Joe has been recognized for his work in history and preservation as the recipient of the following awards: New Jersey Historical Commission Award of Recognition (2004), Susan G. Swartzburg Preservation Award (2007), Gail F. Stern Award (2011), and the Roger McDonough Librarianship Award (2012).

John reported the status of renovations at Jersey City Free Library. Although the staff of the New Jersey Room is off site for a week, their telephone numbers do work at the temporary location.

Bruce discussed newspaper digitization efforts at Paterson Free Public Library. Combining a CAPES survey and a mini grant, the library is exploring options for posting some newspapers at Fultonhistory.com.

Kim announced two programs at New Brunswick Free Public Library: An observation of Juneteenth with a presentation by Jarrett Drake on New Jersey slave consent laws, and a progress report by Ian Burrow on the archaeological project at the New Brunswick First Reformed Church.

Jessica reviewed her work at the Bloomfield Historical Society with 19th century photo plates.

Fernanda informed the group that the Rutgers Special Collections exhibit on early herbals has been extended to August 31st. In the fall, there are plans for a 1 year exhibit commemorating the 250th anniversary of Rutgers University.

Ken named two programs at Somerset County Library that will be presented by History Channel commentator, Bill Chemerka. One is on Daniel Morgan at Warren Township Library on June 30th, and the other is on 350 years of New Jersey history at Peapack and Gladstone Library on July 14th.

Deb updated the group on her ongoing oral history efforts at Chester Library. She is currently working on a project involving women who historically played in a local professional baseball league. This fall, she will be gathering stories from members of the Chester Optimist Club.

Adjournment

Without objections, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 AM.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 27th at the Lawrenceville School.

Warren County Library Tour

The group received a guided tour of the library's local history room, as well as the general collections.