Colts Neck Historical Preservation Committee

Wednesday, September 18, 2024, 6:30 PM at the Colts Neck Rec & Parks Lower Level

In Attendance: Mary Pahira – Chairperson, Patricia Mitchell, Michelle Warendorf, Maggie Osmulski, Patty Eastman, Tom Sullivan, Nick Moretta, & Jennifer Reinson
Absent: Frank Rizzuto - Township Liaison, Preston Filozof, Jessica Tobia, Mary Fournier, Jeanette Moriarty, Jim Schatzle, Janine Strafaci,– all excused

1. Mrs. Pahira called the meeting to order at 6:38 PM stating "The notice requirements of the New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law have been satisfied by forwarding a news release to the Asbury Park Press on January 17, 2024, & September 4, 2024 stating that a meeting of the Colts Neck Historical Preservation Committee (HPC) would be held on September 18, 2024, at 6:30 PM. The notice requirements have been posted on the Township bulletin board and a copy is on file in the office of the Township Clerk." Mrs. Pahira led the Salute to the Flag.
2. The minutes of the August 21, 2024, meeting was accepted by Mrs. Warendorf & Mrs. Reinson.
3. Old Business
   a. Historic Marker – Plantation at the Falls's marker ordered, Lil' Orleans Farm photo op end of June. Mrs. Battista will write Press Release with Photo.
   b. Booklet update – Michele will work with editor and check if a digital version is possible.
   c. Schoolhouse – discovered joists rotted when lifted broken floorboard, so maybe need to address foundation repair at same time. DPW requested to put small pebble by road, and power wash building. Mrs. Pahira 1. Broken floorboard/hole on side of building. 2. Rotted sign above door, sill under front door and door molding. 3. Rotted attic door. 4. Rotted inside by window 5. repair foundation. 6. Remove oil tank in ground by where pipes seen in ground at back of school. Mrs. Pahira said estimate from Paulson was $85,000 and Mrs. Pahira talked with Mr. Rizzuto about hiring Paulson like they did for the cupola. County regrant not for repair of building. Mr. Rizzuto needs to have a conversation with Mrs. Capristo about budget for repairs. Dave Paulson estimate for foundation is $85,000.
   d. 2024 Halloween event October 19th & rain date 20 – Mrs. Pahira asked for signups for sub-committees. Mrs. Pahira purchased a hot dog cooker and donut machine. Mrs. Pahira was voted by all to spend $50 on concession items. Fire Co #1 to trim bamboo, design vignettes for hayride. Plan to sell popcorn bags, hot and cold cider, coffee and hot cocoa. Mrs. Battista will get Press Release ready. Mr. Sullivan trimmed the bamboo last year. Mrs. Pahira said to share event with Monmouth 250. Carrs farm have event next weekend to have our signs there. Facepainters, ROTC, no pumpkin contest, tiki fluid, better battery operated spotlights
   e. 2024 Country Christmas – Dec 8th. Town Tree Lighting Dec 7th. Committee voted for musicians. Mrs. Battista will confirm with them, and ask if they can only use 1 large speaker.
   f. Monmouth 250 – Mrs. Pahira mentioned Monmouth 250 will advertise events. We should consider a horse and buggy ride or a Christmas lantern tour. Mr. Rizzuto asked for Mrs. Battista to mail Christine Hanlon a copy of the Colts Neck book. Ask for Monmouth 250 truck
   g. General Store 175 years old – celebration TBD
   h. Mrs. Pahira engaged monthly magazine or TapInto to get resident stories published. Mrs. Pahira make up an ad. Jeanne Wall of TapInto said she would publish.
   i. Fundraiser – brick engraving, silver picnic bench, brick $150, $1,000 sponsor, plaque for flower garden, platinum. 5.9% if they collect money. Mrs. Pahira motioned to create a non-profit as a 501c3 to fundraise. There were nine Yes votes, and there were no No's.
   j. Get the word out about history in Colts Neck – Add "Things to do" on Township Community page (example https://www.explorehunterdonnj.com/city/oldwick)
   k. Committee members: Still waiting for Township Committee to approve Mrs. Reinson.
4. New Business
   a. Fundraiser discussion - Mrs. Pahira mentioned forming a 501c3 to fundraise.
5. The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 PM motioned by Mrs. Osmulski, 2nd by Mrs. Mitchell. The October 16, 2024 is cancelled, so next meeting is November 20, 2024 at 6:30 PM at the Colts Neck Library Large Meeting Room.

Respectfully submitted, Michele Battista, Secretary