

Claverack Historical Society
Minutes
January 15, 2025

Those in attendance; Nick Zasorin, Paula Ptaszek, Bob LaPorta (by Zoom), Jeane LaPorta (by zoom), Gary Davis, Sal Cozzolino,

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 AM by vice president Gry Davis.

Gary started the meeting highlighting the eight agenda items previously sent to members.

Minutes from the last meeting of July 12, 2024 were read by Jeane and a motion to accept the minutes was presented by Bob, seconded by Paula and approved.

Membership Renewal Letter

Paula needed some clarification regarding the membership categories and after some discussion a motion was presented by Nick, seconded by Jeane to remove the sustaining membership category. The cost of membership will remain the same at this time and the vacant trustee position will be listed as open. Paula will update this letter and trifold brochure and have these corrections completed by the end of January 2025. The dues will cover the calendar year from January to December. Paula will review the database for past members email address, and the letter and membership renewal will be sent to previous members by email.

Provisional Charter Renewal

The previous renewal application was returned needing correction of the offer's signatures before processing. The signatures of the officers need to be notarized, and Paula suggested using the Bank of Greene County for this service. Gary and Paula will sign this document, have it notarized and processed.

Plan for future meeting with schedule

Gary will reach out to Kara looking for an acceptable date and time for future meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday February 19th at 10:00 AM at the Claverack Library. This will be a hybrid meeting, both in person and zoom.

Public Programs

A component in the Provisional Charter is to provide programs to the public that are educational in nature. Paula suggested that we tie these programs into the Claverack Library History Room. The following topics were suggested and will be explored for future consideration:

- How to obtain a Pomery historic marker.
- Rededication of the current historic markers currently being repaired.
- History of the Claverack fire department and post office.
- One room schoolhouses in Claverack
- Cooking colonial style. Possibly contacting Nancy Fuller (Host of Farmhouse Rules Cooking show) to be the presenter at her historic Casparus Conyn homestead Claverack.

Gary will make up a list of the ideas. Jeane offered to be the lead person, as town historian, with the highway departments and Pomeroy Foundation and for verification of the information, for the historic markers. Paula will be in touch with Tom Shannon, Germantown historian who volunteered to repaint the signs.

Location of the CHS Artifacts

Jeane LaPorta
Secretary
1/17/25

The Claverack Historical society artifacts are currently housed at the Town Hall and Claverack Library. Discussion was had to find a way to display these artifacts for public viewing that is secure. The suggestion to loan them to local businesses for display or use the library gallery for viewing was presented. The site of the Red Mill was discussed. Paula said the building has no heat or insulation and is in need of major repair. The topic is tabled for now.

America 250.

Claverack currently has a committee for the America 250 celebration and Jeane felt that in an effort to reduce redundancy, groups and meetings, this organization should be part of the work performed by the Historical Society. The town has budgeted \$5,000 toward this effort and Jeane will approach Kippy Weigelt, town supervisor, to see if these funds can be funneled through the CHS. It was felt that the next America 250 committee meeting be held in conjunction with the next Claverack Historical Meeting. A motion was made to join these two organizations by Bob, seconded by Nick and approved.

Treasurers Report

The current balance is \$932.05.

New Business

Gary asked if the town historians or historical societies from the individual towns meet to discuss issues or do they operate separately. Jeane described the County Historians group and their function. Gary described the efforts by the town of Stuyvesant to save a bridge in their town from demolition. He expressed his interest in saving the historic Shaw bridge in Claverack and wondered if the Historians group could assist in this endeavor. Nick explained that when a bridge is altered or demolished documentation is required by Parks and Recreation. Jeane told the group that an archologist review of the bridge is needed before demolition can take place. No further action on this topic.

Paula brought up the condition of the Red Mill as it relates to the history of Claverack and as a significant historic building. She also recommended that the Mill have a Pomeroy marker. Jeane explained the process of applying for a marker which involves permission from property owners. Paula and Jeane volunteered to contact property manager Jeremiah Rusconi and owner James Ivory to start some discussion on these topics.

With no further business a motion was made by Nick, seconded by Paula to adjourn at 11:40 AM.

Jeane LaPorta
Secretary
1/17/25