

**Lower Merion Historical Society
Executive Board Meeting
June 21, 2016
The Lower Merion Academy**

Present: Jerry Francis, Ken Brier, Leon Levine, Pete Hoskins, Christina Fink, Carole Strickland, Martha Moffat, Perrin Hamilton, Pat Doyle, Ted Goldsborough, Gary Brock, Bobbie McElroy

Guests: Brian McGuire, James Oswald

Excused Absence: Max Buten, Joanne Murray, Louis Barson

Representing *The Lower Merion Horse Company*: Minshall Painter (President), Tamara Waters (Secretary), Roy Wolfe (Treasurer), Frank Forlano (Chaplain), Bruce Gill (Board Memeber)

Jerry Francis called the meeting to order at 7:43 PM and asked Frank Forlano to begin with a prayer. The Pledge Of Allegiance followed. Jerry then asked that we go around the table and introduce ourselves.

Signing the Affiliation Agreement: Minshall Painter described the purpose of the affiliation agreement between *The Lower Merion Historical Society* and the *Lower Merion Society for the Detection and Prosecution of Horse Thieves and the Recovery of Stolen Horses*. Jerry and Minshall then signed the agreement and a toast was offered by Roy Wolfe. Roy announced that their November 12th annual dinner will be held at the Cynwyd Club and hoped that everyone would attend. Roy then presented Leon Levine, as Treasurer of the Lower Merion Historical Society, with the Horse Company's branding iron to keep in trust in our achieves as a symbol of our united societies. Roy announced that he still holds the checkbook for the Horse Company. Bruce Gill agreed to be the "Ex Officio" representative for the Horse Company on the Historical Society Board.

The Minutes of the April 19, 2016 Board meeting were approved.

Jerry then discussed the list of 2016 Special Projects:

- 1) Assist the Township in adopting an ordinance to protect historical objects.
- 2) Assist the Township in updating their historic resource inventory database.
- 3) Support Comprehensive Plan recommendations.
- 4) Support the concept of Lower Merion Preservation Trust.
- 5) Collaborate with the Historical Architectural Review Board, Historical Commisson, and the Lower Merion Conservancy on preservation initiatives.
- 6) Revitalize the Historic Preservation Annual Awards.
- 7) Assist the Lower Merion Conservancy in compiling their 2016 WatchList.

There are nine Lower Merion properties currently listed on the Lower Merion Conservancy WatchList.

Other Special Projects are:

- 1) Landscaping at the Switchback Bridge project on the Cynwyd Heritage Trail.
- 2) Support the NCBC's 100th Anniversary of their July 4th Independence Day Celebration.
- 3) Revitalize Lower Merion Society for the Detection and Prosecution of Horse Thieves and recovery of Stolen Horses.
- 4) Enhance our website with more content updates.

Treasurer's Report: Leon Levine presented the Treasurer's Report as of April 30, 2016. The good news is that there is a new tenant for the first floor area (*The Trail's End Café at Cynwyd Station*). The unfortunate news is that we lost the caretaker tenant for the upstairs apartment. Under the Profit & Loss report were lists of types of income and expenses, which included insurance, salaries, taxes, repairs and utilities. It was moved and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Financial Review Committee: Christina Fink and Perrin Hamilton reported that their report would be presented at the September Board meeting.

Database Administration/Newsletter: The newsletter will be available after July 1st. We currently have 964 names and address (941 with an email address and 23 without an email address). Also, the newsletter goes into our Facebook page where 300 to 400 readers can read our newsletter.

Education: Jerry will do a lecture entitled *Merion: A Visual History Tour* at the Bala Cynwyd Library on November 10th.

Library: The Library is still being staffed by Jerry, Ted Goldsborough, Max Buten and Bob McCormick.

Website/Facebook/YouTube: Run by Joanne and Jerry. We continue to receive about 15,000 visits each month to our website.

Membership: 2nd Notices were mailed on June 11th. Currently we have 73 "Paid" members, 48 "Not Paid" members with an additional 31 "Life" members.

Property Committee: The Lower Merion School District does maintenance to the Academy building and they continue to be good stewards of the property. New gates have been installed around the property, the front porch and pillars have been painted, and all the light bulbs in the building are being replaced with LED units.

Pete Hoskins reported that the replacement of the first floor Café area was a team effort and he thanked the committee and council for all the help. Jerry thinks that we should advertise to fill the vacant 2nd floor apartment. The second floor tenant is usually the eyes and ears of the property. Thanks go to the whole committee, Pete, Martha Moffat, Ken Brier and our Solicitor, Jim Ettelson.

Publications: Jerry has drafted a history about the *Lower Merion Horse Company* and he hopes to have it published by the end of the year. The Horse Company was founded in 1818 and we will be having a 200th anniversary year party in November 2018.

Old Business: nothing to report.

New Business: Thanks to Martha for supplying the cider that was used in the “toast.”

A committee was formed to discuss future projects. Those who volunteered were Christina (Chairperson), Perrin, Ken, Martha, Carole, Gary, and Jerry. Meeting place and time to be announced.

Jerry asked for help to staff the Historical Society’s table at the NCBC’s July 4th celebration.

The Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Next Board Meeting Monday, September 12, 2016 at 7:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara McElroy, Secretary