

Van Riper Meeting -- 11/14/19
(Held at Vincent Methodist Church)

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m.

In attendance:

Dante Intindola, ~~Pat~~ Williams, Barbra Davide, Gina Somers, Janice Fraser, Maryann Lorber, Jack Casale, Alan Vallister, Kathlyn Quinn and Marion Butler, *Peggy*

Minutes from the previous meeting were read and accepted. Barbara Davide presented the Treasurer's report (see attached).

Janice and Pat announced that they have membership applications.

Pat presented information about the Chamber of Commerce. They meet on the third Thursday of the month.

OLD BUSINESS:

Dante reported on the cleanup that took place on 9/22. There was a good turnout; town equipment will now be able to better access the property to remove vegetation and debris. Barbara asked about securing the well; Dante agreed that it needs to be secured and the building needs to be winterized.

Dante also reported on his attendance at the Rotary meeting held in October; there may be some interest from them. M. Derro expressed an interest in being involved with the Van Riper.

Dante has also been in contact with the closest living descendant of the Van Riper family; he sent pictures of the family and the house (possibly from 1847). The family member indicated that he also has items from the house.

He also reported that progress has been made with the renewal of the lease (expires in 2021). He met with Mario Tucci and John Simko. The discussion included the length and terms of the new lease. The matter will be on the agenda before year end.

Maryann announced that she has lists of members, newspaper articles and correspondence. She also has a wagonwheel which was found on the Van Riper property; this item is stored in her garage.

Dante proposed to:

- (1) make sure the house is winterized; possible day for winterization 11/30 or 12/1
- (2) decorate for Christmas; suggestions were garland and a wreath on the well

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Pat suggested animal repellent; she will contact Frank Contella.

There was discussion regarding:

- free publicity "Tap Into"
- participation in annual event: "On 3"
- Dante proposed sponsoring a scholarship (\$250.00) based on an essay answering the question: "Why do you think local history is important?"

' A motion was made, seconded and passed.

Pat will contact Verizon regarding the phone lines; she had a call from Franklin Central Communications. Barbara will give Dante a copy of the phone bill so that he can check options for phone service.

Peggy reported that her daughter and her friends are working on projects to get more information out about the Van Riper House. She displayed the bracelets they're making and they're working on a permanent sign to be installed at the house. They have a Facebook page. They will be at the Knights of Columbus on 12/8.

Dante announced that he will be in Pittsburgh for 18 months beginning in September. He will stay in contact as much as possible.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Marion Butler
Secretary