

Building Committee Report – May 2014

Accomplishments:

- Coordinated payment of Port-o-potty; initial payment appears to have been lost in the mail.

Planned Activities and Undertakings:

- Acquisition Activities
 - Acquisition of security/trail cameras for use around the exterior of the main house.
- Logistical Activities
 - Scrap and/or sale of radiators and oil tanks.
- Construction Activities
 - Replacement or augmentation of the current window enclosures to allow for natural light and possible debris removal. No date has been determined for this activity.
 - Reconstruction/repair of the cellar stairs – to be completed TBD.
- Coordination Activities
 - Remediation activities to be coordinated in the May/June timeframe to include:
 - Repair of the ceiling in the upstairs bathroom
 - Repair of the floor in the downstairs bathroom
 - Stabilization of the ceiling joists in room 1A and 1C
 - Stabilization of fireplace masonry
 - Additional building permits are required; applications to be submitted.
- Documentation Activities
 - Creation of an official Building Use Plan that will document the decisions of the Board regarding the use of rooms in the main house, caretakers cottage, milk house and servants house. Draft date to be decided.
 - Develop a letter for the elementary school detailing the work being done at the house and to address safety precautions in place.

Efforts Requiring Board Approval/Discussion:

- Address insurance concerns with volunteers providing more assistance than simple cleanup (I.e. reconstruction, remediation, stabilization).

Future Concerns or Needs:

- Need to coordinate with the State the validity of materiel purchased for GFPS by MJM via Distribution International and Home Depot as applicable to the Grant.
- Need to determine remaining amount of grant after current invoice payouts.

Events Reports May 2014

Kayak Raffle-

- Have Kayaks
- Still need to purchase Paddles (\$25 each)- need a check
- Have Tickets- need payment from Joe
- Have flyers- need payment from Joe
- Asking that each Board member take at least ten tickets to sell.

Strawberry Festival-6/7

- Go over shift schedule to work booth- and bring supplies
- Need folks to walk in the parade-
- Construct a Goshen Float??

On the Horizon

- Harvest Dinner- Need to start looking at dates
 - I haven't help plan this event before so need some guidance
- Wine Tasting- Look at dates

Halloween Ball- October 25th

- Contacted DJ Dave to secure the date
- Need to secure a caterer
- Need to start compiling Silent Auction letter list and seek donations

Requiring Board Approval/Discussion

On Hold:

Possibly in the Fall of 2015 combine the Fall Open House and the Harvest dinner together to be held at the house. Using donated tents, GFPS tables + donated, Propane tanks to cook noodles and heat sauce. Possibly opening this up to vendors who sell only handmade, natural or earthy type products during this all day event. Would probably need more activities for children.

Submitted by Terry Brandon, Garden Chairman/2014 to Lou Biondi President & GFPS Board

Accomplished:

1. One garden plot currently available. (Plot #49)
2. April Goshen Farm Open House/ Garden workday & Seed Exchange successful.
3. Rabbit fence attached to Sharing Garden fence during workday.
4. Garden water in service.
5. Goshen Farm Sharing Garden invitation extended to Ann Harris, Counselor Windsor Farm Elementary.
6. 4 plot owners responded to request to clear plots of excessive weed.
7. Brian Maddox to begin cultivating and collecting native plants in foundation beds near Sharing Garden

Needs Accomplishing:

1. Short Term:
 - a. Establish composting area behind Goshen Farm Sharing Garden
 - b. Erect 20 ft X 40 ft Meeting room/plant propagation hoop house on north side of garden.

2. Long Term:
 - a. Develop plan for “Colonial” Landscape gardens around Goshen Farm House and entry road with Grounds Chairman Roy Benner and incorporating membership volunteers and possibly Navy midshipmen. Evolve working partnership with Broadneck peninsula garden clubs-esp. Cape St. Claire garden club.
 - b. Establish Goshen Farm Garden subcommittees to work on various Grounds or Garden projects.
 - c. Establish working set of relationships with local education institutions to utilize Goshen Farm grounds and Garden resources—preschool through graduate school levels as described in GFPS Business Plan.

Need Approval:

- New Business:**
1. Provisional addition of 2 “at large” board members to explore financial development and strategic planning for future of Goshen Farm.
 2. Establish “actual” budgets for garden area and grounds area.

Grounds' Committee Report

May 21, 2014 Submitted by Roy Benner, Chairman, 5/16/14 to Lou Biondi

Accomplished:

1. Cut the grass three times since last month's report.
2. Met with Mary Alexander, Peter Morrill, and Melissa Archer of the Maryland Historical Trust to discuss suggested actions of GFPS with the Trust. Peter is an Easement Inspector and was highly interested in the wood structure(s) and construction of the early houses. Most notable was the white-washed ceilings of the 1783 second floor area and the board and batten construction of some of the flooring of the 1783 attic (possibly for heat retention in the rooms below). Also noted where windows were added or enlarged throughout the history of the structure and which window frames were original.
3. Letters sent to several individuals: most notable to Dean Cowherd of the NRCS and to Jane Cox of AAP&Z for their large part in broadening the scope of the April 12 Open House (Soils and Archeology education).
4. Picked up the Post World War II artifacts cleaned and cataloged by Jasmin Gollup of "The Lost Towns Project" from their lab at Historic London Town. These items are in a box placed in the 1854 House for safe keeping.
5. Obtained 16 Tobacco plants grown in the Bay region when John Smith sailed the Chesapeake. Two varieties were obtained: "Delaware Valley" Indian tobacco was determined to be too strong and bitter to the people of Europe when sent back to Europe. However, the other variety, that grown by the Orinoco Indians, was found to be very acceptable and became the mainstay of Maryland growers in the early days of the State. Preparing a bed area for these plants and plan to use them in any future talks or tours of the Goshen Farm. Attended a talk on growing tobacco in Maryland on May 10th, and picked up several growing tips.
6. Several large-vine covered trees fell on the recently finished fence surrounding the Soil Health Pit at Goshen Farm (probably fell on May 5th or 6th). Two days' time was required to remove these trees from the soil pit area. Terry Brandon assisted in much of this work. There remains some debris that must be removed to keep from smothering the newly emerging Native Plants surrounding the pit.
7. Installed treated wood sills below each of the four Sharing Garden gates to make a tight fit between the recently installed rabbit fence and the ground. These structures will keep any animal from digging under the rabbit fence at these gate areas.
8. The recently planted flowering trees seem to be surviving.
9. Went to a seminar on "Bee Keeping," and I believe the big thing to take away is that Honey Bees are very docile and would be a good addition to Goshen Farm down the road. The details are in noted in the Membership Report.

Needs Accomplishing:

1. Purchase lumber and repair the damaged rails and pickets, done by the falling trees to the Soil Health Pit fence.
2. To install a brown fiberglass flagpole to hold a U.S. Flag and a "1783 Shaw Flag (13 stars)." Flag lighting requirements will also be addressed.
3. Contact Jim Rausch, President of The Friends of Kinder Farm Park, for information on the preservation, development, and operation of a "typical working farm in the early 20th century."

4. Contact Congressmen Wayne Gilchrest regarding his educational lesson plans and experiences in Kent County.
5. Long Term:
 - a. Develop a plan to attack and control rampant growth of trees and vines (invasives) that strangle our growing trees.
 - b. Continue descriptions of planned activities listed in the Grounds Master Use Plan and continue layout of the grounds.

Needs Approval:

New Business: None.

May 19, 2014

History Committee Report

No new information to report.

Waiting for the records to be digitized and returned.

Planning to visit the Third Haven Meeting house in Easton this week to continue research on Henry Woolchurch. Most of their records are now at the state archives.

There are no urgent needs at this time.

Scott Powers

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

May 21, 2014

Submitted by Becky Benner on May 16, 2014

MEMBER TOTALS for 2014

- Members who either joined or renewed since September 8, 2013, and whose memberships thus expire December 31, 2014.

Residents

Resident Individuals = 25

Resident Households = 68

Corporate = 8

Includes

0 new Individual member

0 renewal Individual members

4 new Household members

2 renewal Household members

0 new Corporate member

Total = 101 resident members

Non-Residents

Non-resident Individuals = 20

Non-resident Households = 17

Corporate = 8

Includes

3 new Individual members

0 renewal Individual members

0 new Household member

0 renewal Household member

2 new Corporate members

Total = 45 non-resident members

2014 Total = 146 overall memberships

ACCOMPLISHED

- Send acknowledgement letters to renewals and/or new members
- Update 2014 membership database
- Mail membership packets (consisting of Welcome Letter, Overview of Goshen Farm History, Benefits, Listing of Board of Directors, and a Map of Goshen Farm) to new/renewed members
- Worked with Garden Chair to correlate GFPS and GFSG members
- Met with Jim Morrison, Friends of Hancock Resolution, for additional information regarding property, buildings, planned activities, gardens, bee hives, etc. Will meet with Jim again to discuss partnerships and relationships with other historic agencies.
- Met with Mary Alexander, Pete Morrill, and Melissa Archer from the Maryland Historical Trust and Roy Benner at the Goshen Farm House and toured the property. Pete leads the Easement Division and Melissa the Tax Credit Department at MHT. Both are preservationists and examined the Farm House, verifying and finding new original aspects in the 1783 and 1850s buildings. Pete promised to share his findings with others at MHT and

provide answers (he hopes) to some of the puzzling features of the houses. Pete's parting comment, "It (the Farm House) has great bones and they are all there despite some destroyed areas..."

- Attended a presentation by Rick Derrick, a member of the Anne Arundel County Beekeepers Association. During the discussion afterwards, Roy and I asked pointed questions about having bee hives near public areas, pollination of vegetable plants, value of allowing bee hives at large property areas, etc.
- Met John Lodge (Marketing) and Karen Olsen (Office Manager) at Historic London Town and Gardens, Family Program, "Tobacco is King." Information regarding crops, vegetables, establishing the wherewithal for educational programs, and operation overhead were briefly discussed and an invitation for future meetings was extended.

TO DO ITEMS

- Meet with June Hall, Captain Avery Museum, regarding success of multi-pronged membership drives (direct mailing, e-mail messages, presence at community functions, etc.) and resulting acknowledgement packets
- Meet with Angela Yan, Steppingstone Museum, regarding multiple activities sponsored by farm museum, grants, membership, etc., and successes in each avenue of effort. Meeting to take place after schools adjourn for summer.
- Meet with Jesse Gagnon, Marshall Steam Museum and Friends of Auburn Heights Preserve, regarding interaction with local schools and success with building membership base. Meeting to take place after schools adjourn for summer.
- Meet with Diane and Jim Rausch, The Friends of Kinder Farm Park, for avenues of building membership base(s)

NOTE

- May 2013 = 134 overall memberships; May 2014 = 146 overall memberships
- April 2013 = 118 overall memberships; April 2014 = 135 overall memberships
- March 2013 = 112 overall memberships; March 2014 = 129 overall memberships