

Friends of Rockwood General Membership Meeting

Sunday, June 5th, 2011

NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY, JULY 13TH AT 6 PM

Paul Clark is scheduled to be in attendance.

June Zappa, President, called the meeting to order at noon.

*She introduced **Linda Gray** as the newest board member. She asked for a vote to approve her and it was approved.*

*June also announced the nomination of **Betsy Wenny** as Secretary and **Donna Fox** as the alternate. That was approved by the membership.*

Doug Wenny: Financial Report

As of May 2011, we had expenses of \$67.75 with a total for the fiscal year, ending in June of \$3328.66.

As of May 2011, we had income of \$265 from membership with a total of \$9125.33 that includes \$3000 from the DCF Passthrough Account.

The DCF, Delaware Community Foundation, fund is where the Friends can take out money as needed. There is \$130,608 in that account.

The Conservation Fund totals \$5732.44 that includes income from the Friends' lectures and the Victorian Ball.

We have \$9196.35 in the Artisan Bank checking account, of which \$5,000 is now being sent to the University of Delaware for the Sweeney Scholarship Fund.

The DCF Endowment Fund contains \$136,690. We are limited to about a \$6000 withdrawal from that account each year.

The financial report was approved as read.

The Grant Committee has been preparing applications to be sent out on the timely basis.

The Task Force

The County staff that includes Jane Rattenni, Marcus Henry, C. R. McCleod and Philip Nord will meet with the Friends of Rockwood at a Task Force Meeting, the first being Monday, June 20th. June Zappa, Judy Filipkowski, Donna Fox and John Cartier represent the Friends.

June reported on our successful events of the past year that included the Victorian Ball with our silent auction bringing in an income of about \$2,000. We also had 3 successful lectures with 3 more scheduled in the fall.

Our Holiday party was also a success with Chris Hutchinson playing a great Santa. We invited friends and family to join us resulting in a great turnout with a number of children.

The Sweeney Scholarship recipient for the coming year is Jaemin Wells, who is studying shipwrecks. The relationship to Rockwood is that Joseph Shipley's firm in England was in the import-export business.

The Brandywine Hills Community Association held their meeting at Rockwood a few months ago with more than 30 in attendance. This is a way to reach out to the community. We also invited IHM Catholic Church members to visit and few did join us for coffee. We want to continue this promotion to as many groups as we can.

Paul Clark, County Executive spoke to us about the budget.

His goal is to spend only what the county takes in and not dip into the reserves. He has asked the county employees for a 2½ % give back.

The biggest expense in the county is for public safety which is 60% of the costs.

He hopes for us to promote Rockwood's attendance, not only in the mansion, but also in the park as well, to show the citizens the beauty of our historic house and grounds.

He suggested a Victorian style play area for the children.

Philip Nord, Museum Director

Philip told the group that the Butler's Pantry has been closed. It was never a financial success. He is searching for volunteers to give tours, be at the entrance, and help with the collection, exhibits and research.

There are two rooms in the mansion being prepared to reopen: The Estate Room, or butler's room and Edward's bedroom.

Judy Filipkowski

Secretary