



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

DETAILS

Date: Nov. 11, 2019, 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Location: Riverside Hall
Attachments: Board Packet (Oct. 2019)

ATTENDEES

Board Members: Candace Roberts, Mark Roberts, Amy Grant (via telephone), Jeanette Woehr, Jerry Walker, Peggy Buescher, Alan Segal
Guests: Richard Woehr

ACTION ITEMS

PENDING

- Ask property committee if a structural engineering report was generated for the church roof.
- Contact the Swedish Colonial Society about obtaining contact information for the Forefathers.
- Amy Grant and Candace Roberts will draft a sample year-end fundraising letter.
- The Swedish American Chamber of Commerce asked us for a master calendar so that they can promote our events (Lucia, Spirits & History, etc) in their monthly newsletter; to speed up this process, HGDPC will send our events separately from the church.
- Check east wall of sacristy for potential water damage.
- Mark Roberts to add plot number to sample sign for Caleb Cushing and will order sample.
- Mark Roberts to submit application for HGDPC to join the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission (PHMC).
- Candace Roberts to discuss with Vestry possibility of using the “blue books” as give-aways for certain donor-levels.
- Candace Roberts to contact local foundations and organizations about donating toward Keystone Grant project:
 - Councilman Mark Squilla
 - William B. Dietrich Foundation (P.O. Box 58177, Philadelphia, PA 19102)
 - Lenfest Foundation (lenfestfoundation.org)
 - Haas Foundation (www.wyncotefoundation.org)
 - The McLean Contributionship (ATTN: Sandra L. McLean, 230 Sugartown Road, Suite 30, Wayne, PA 19067)
- Candace Roberts to contact Kim-Eric Williams for information on the Swedish bishop who visited last month.
- Candace Roberts to work with Amy Grant and Jeanette Woehr on creating a branded handout with accurate information about Gloria Dei’s history.
- Amy Grant to create event planning/promotion checklist with list of contacts at local related history organizations, civic groups and other interest groups.
- Candace Roberts to create a graphical timeline to explain the next steps in the Keystone Grant process.
- Jeanette Woehr to locate contact information for Chris Roak and Andrew Rudman’s ancestor regarding Landenberger Family Foundation.

COMPLETED



- ☑ Candace Roberts contacted local foundations and organizations about donating toward Keystone Grant project:
 - ☑ Fall 2019 QVNA Community Grant (<https://qvna.org/grants>).
 - ☑ Landenberger Family Foundation
 - ☑ Mary Ryan contacted “Twisted Philly” podcast about giving a lecture here in the future.
 - ☑ Candace Roberts created poster and other promotional materials for “Beef, Beer and Ben Franklin.”
 - ☑ Mark Roberts installed outdoor signage holder for churchyard maps.
 - ☑ Amy Grant contacted Carpenters’ Hall regarding the Landenberger Family Foundation.
 - ☑ Mary Ryan contacted her college professor about being a guest lecturer in our “Great Talks at Gloria Dei” series.
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AGENDA

KEYSTONE GRANT

We received notice in August 2019 that we were awarded a Keystone Grant for our painting and wood repair project. As of this morning, we are within \$5,500 of reaching our fundraising goal. Candace Roberts is actively investigating these funding possibilities:

- Landenberger Family Foundation: packet and letter of intent was sent via US Postal Mail. This foundation has supported historic preservation projects at Carpenters’ Hall and a few other historic churches.
- QVNA Community Grant: Candace Roberts submitted a grant application to QVNA for \$3,000 for funding toward the Keystone Grant project. We will receive notice this December.

We will also continue to:

- Solicit donations from current HGDPC board members, the congregation and the general public.
- Offer give-aways at certain donor levels. The “Colonial Records of the Swedish Churches in Pennsylvania” book series might be an excellent give-away, if the Vestry agrees. These books are valued at \$180.00 (plus shipping).
- Host events and programs that bring new visitors to the property.
- Request grants and funds from local organizations that support historic preservation:
 - Society Hill Civic Association
 - Councilman Mark Squilla
 - William B. Dietrich Foundation
 - Jerry Lenfest Foundation
 - Haas Foundation
 - The McLean Contributionship

We received a draft of the conditions report by Materials Conservation, which details the scope of work for the repair and painting project.

- Mark Roberts and Jim Ufiel noticed that the steeple not included this proposal; this repair would require erecting scaffolding (which may be outside of our budget). We may be able to use a steeple jack for this repair, which would cost a lot less than scaffolding.
- The steeple repair is critical — we may defer the Sexton House repair in order to fund the steeple repair.
- Back wall of church is wet; probably due to leak from window above. This will be addressed as part of Keystone Grant.



Materials Conservation expects to provide us with the final version of this document at the end of October. As per the terms of the grant, **this detailed scope of work must be reviewed and approved by the Historic Commission and the Keystone Grant office.** In addition, **the Keystone Grant office has final approval over any contractors or subcontractors who are hired to work on the project.**

Project Timeline (Revised):

- ~~October 4th: Materials Conservation submits the Development and Construction draft document to Gloria Dei Church~~
- ~~November 8th: Gloria Dei Church will review and send comments to Materials Conservation~~
- ~~November 22nd: Materials Conservation will provide the finished Development and Construction document to Gloria Dei Church~~
- January 4th: Historic Gloria Dei will send the document to the Keystone Grant office for review and approval
- January 13th: Historic Gloria Dei will send the document to the Philadelphia Historic Commission for review and approval
- January 29th: Expectation is that document will be approved by the Keystone Grant office and the Historic Commission
- February 3rd: Materials Conservation will send the Development and Construction document to potential contractors, with a requested return date of December 23rd
- March 4-13th: Gloria Dei Church and Materials Conservation will review proposals and select contractors
- March 16th: Historic Gloria Dei will provide the desired contractor list to the Keystone Grant office for review and approval
- March 20th: We expect that the Keystone Grant office will accept our selections
- March 30th: We will advise the selected contractors and sign agreements for work to begin in spring with an expected completion date of late spring or early summer.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS:

Lecture Series

On Wed, Oct 23rd, we hosted our second *Great Talks* event, "Digitizing the Records of Philadelphia's Historic Congregations" with Carol W. Smith. We had 26 RSVPs through our website; **over 40 attended.**

We have the following lectures booked this fall and winter:

- Wed, Nov 13th at 7 pm: "Rocks and Nails: The Carpenters' Company and Religious Buildings in Philadelphia" with Alex Palma. **32 RSVPs so far!**
- Wed, Jan 22nd at 7 pm: "William Penn Meant Well ... Or Blame It On The Irish" with Jim Mundy, Historian of The Union League Legacy Foundation
- Wed, Feb 5th at 7 pm: "The Archaeology of the First Baptist Church of Philadelphia Burial Ground" with Dr. George Leader
- Wed, Feb 27th at 6 pm: Joint program with the Geographical Society of Philadelphia. Panel discussion on preservation at several worldwide sites including Gloria Dei!
- Thur, March 12th at 7 pm: "Precious Dust: The History of the Bethel Burying Ground" with Terry Buckalew



- Wed, Sept 16th at 7 pm: “A New Look at the Amazing Success of Philadelphia’s Founder William Penn” with Jim Murphy

Alan Segal has generously offered to have *The Jazz Sanctuary* provide a piano player for the reception portions of these programs.

We have contacted the following historians about being guest speakers in 2020:

- Amy Grant has contacted Tim McGrath, author, *John Barry: An American Hero in the Age of Sail* (2010), *Give Me a Fast Ship: The Continental Navy and America’s Revolution at Sea* (2015). He has expressed interest. Amy is trying to book this talk for Nov. 2020.
- Mary Ryan contacted her college professor about being a guest lecturer. He expressed interest though we have not confirmed a date.
- Mary Ryan has also been in touch with *Twisted Philly* about recording a podcast here. We were hoping to book this event in October, but it seems that is a busy month for this podcast. We might have to look at later dates.

Beef, Beer and Ben Franklin

Our first Beef and Beer fundraiser took place on Fri, Nov. 1st at 5:00 pm. We raised over \$500 at this event. Many thanks to Heather Myers, John Marceline, Jeanette Woehr and Chef Reuben for donating their time, energy and talent. A few executives from American Airlines attended and are interested in sponsoring this event in 2020. They were especially impressed with Jeanette Woehr’s tour of the church. This would be our first corporate sponsor!

CHURCHYARD AND PROPERTY UPDATES:

- We have received our first legacy gift from a non-board member. Stephen Robeson Miller is leaving HGDPC \$15,000 in his will for care of markers that are in the worst shape. Bob Stewart is working with Stephen to draft a codicil to clarify specific ways in which this funding can be used.
- Mary Ryan is working on getting volunteers to help plant the 12 cradle graves in our churchyard. She has been in touch with Woodland Cemetery to see how their flower bed program works. She suggests that we come up with a name for the program to help brand it.
- Michael Schreiber, who was not present for this meeting, sent an email about the sidewalk trees that line the property. National Parks Service is responsible for maintaining these trees and is concerned that the roots have caused severe damage to our sidewalks. There are plans to replace these trees with bushes. Michael would like to discuss options for maintaining trees in these pits and hopes that we can discuss this with National Parks.

OTHER BUSINESS

- ♦ Reviewed and approved Oct 2019 minutes.
- ♦ Reviewed and approved the Financial Report.