

WHS Trustee Meeting Minutes – 2 pages
July 1, 2023

Officers and Trustees present: Neil Crouse, Leslie Rose, Millicent Treloar, Walt Stanfield Jr, Bob McCue, June Menkens, Bill Doyle, Viktor Prizgintas, Alex Prizgintas, Joanne Calore, Arlene Maher (11 of 14, a quorum). Others present: Brandon Calore, Town of Woodbury Councilman, Hailey Calore, Lise Prizgintas, Lisa Hintze

Meeting was called to order by President Alex Prizgintas with the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence.

Minutes of the September 24, 2022 meeting were read out loud by Alex Prizgintas. Minutes were approved by all after noting one correction going forward, “Viktor” in Viktor Prizgintas is spelled with “k” not a “c.” Viktor Prizgintas motioned to approve, Leslie Rose seconded.

Minutes of the April 16, 2023 Annual Meeting were read out loud by Alex Prizgintas. No discussion or corrections. Minutes were approved by all after Bill Doyle motioned to approve, Bob McCue seconded.

Treasurer’s report was given by Alex Prizgintas. Total Account Balance on 5/31/23 was \$42,912.73. Line overview attached. Report approved by all after no discussion or corrections. Viktor Prizgintas motioned to approve, seconded by Bill Doyle.

Committee Reports: Approved by all following a motion by Viktor Prizgintas, seconded by Bill Doyle
Cemetery – no updates.

Collections – WHS has one new water and fire proof cabinet; a second is on its way. Some new genealogy and other items were added to the archives.

Gatehouse – See New Business below.

Membership – As of July 1, 2023, WHS has about 33 paid memberships.

Public Relations – Alex Prizgintas is starting a monthly email to the membership. The printed Newsletter will continue, tentatively, on a twice-a-year basis, depending on the volume of available articles.

Scholarship – Max Hershkowitz received the \$1,000 Galberd Scholarship award to pursue a program in nursing. Katharine Deane received the \$1000 Kirk Scholarship award to pursue a Bachelor’s Degree in computer science.

Old Business: None

New Business:

A-Frame sandwich board: This “Open for Visitors” sign will be set outdoors in the front of the WHS building on RT 32 during hours that the building is open to the public and then carried back inside, similar to a real estate “open house” sign. All Trustees approved a \$165 quote to obtain this sign from Staples, including graphics and text. Motion by Millicent Treloar, second by Viktor Prizgintas.

Appointment of new Chairperson for Gatehouse Committee: Dot Morris resigned as the Gatehouse Committee Chairperson on June 1, 2023. Trustees appointed, by unanimous vote, Joanne Calore as the new Gatehouse Committee Chairperson. Motion by Neil Crouse, second by Leslie Rose. Joanne reported that minor interior maintenance work, such as painting and electrical outlet repairs, need to be completed before opening the Proctor Gatehouse building for displays. She is seeking volunteers and paint/materials contributions to complete this work. Leslie noted that WHS, annually, pays for 2 or 3 speaker presentations for Gatehouse programs. Alex is talking to sources at West Point requesting donations of display hardware items, like plexiglass, for Gatehouse exhibits.

Revised meeting schedule: WHS Trustee meetings will be held bimonthly going forward, on the first Saturday of the month at 10AM. Next meeting is scheduled for September 2, 2023. All approved following motion by Viktor Prizgintas, second by Leslie Rose.

WHS programs: Extensive discussions of a diversity of topics for future WHS events and Newsletter articles took place. Those conversations will continue in future meetings. Two events were scheduled:

- 1) *WHS Annual Meeting on Saturday, November 4, 2023:* Topic will be the histories of Bear Mountain and Harriman State Park, presented by author and speaker Ronnie Coffee. Speaker fee is \$100. All approved meeting, topic and fee following motion by Leslie Rose, seconded by Viktor Prizgintas.
- 2) *Fundraiser for Wreaths Across America, October 28, 2023, Cemetery of the Highlands:* Lisa Hintze is the local coordinator for this national organization. She will oversee placing a wreath on the grave of every veteran buried in the Town of Woodbury on December 16, 2023, National Wreaths Across America Day. She requested WHS to sponsor this fundraiser seeking donations to cover the cost of the wreaths, \$17 each. At this event, she plans on having about ten local veterans giving tours of the graves of veterans from different wars. Approved by all following motion by Joanne Calore, seconded by Viktor Prizgintas.

WHS website: Updates are continuing, as are additions to digital archives, thanks to the ongoing efforts of volunteers Miriam and Terry Fawley, who also will redesign a WHS flyer. WHS will send them a \$100 gift card for a favorite restaurant of theirs near their Florida location. All approved following motion by Millicent Treloar, second by Leslie Rose.

Other business:

- 1) Brandon Calore would like to include WHS financial support in the upcoming Town of Woodbury budget. WHS advised him that, because the Town owns the Proctor Gatehouse building and property, it would like the Town to pay the Gatehouse heating bill at a minimal level of support. Broadly, WHS would like the Town to cover, by budget and/or grants, the same physical building and grounds maintenance and repairs that it does for the WHS Rushmore Building on RT 32. WHS then will, similar to the Rushmore property, cover only Gatehouse interior maintenance costs like painting, shelving, electrical outlet repairs, etc.
- 2) Bill Doyle would like to see an archival file developed on the farm, and its last owner, that pre-dated the Valley Forge housing development. That owner had made generous contributions to the community.

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned. Neil Crouse motioned, Bob McCue seconded, all approved.