

Solomon Wells House Committee  
Minutes – Tuesday, April 10, 2012

Mary Mahar, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. Members present were Carolyn Bedula, Nancy Doyle, Marilyn McPhee, Gretchen Kelly, Harry Lichtenbaum, Theresa Urbanski and Kathy Bagley, Director, Parks and Recreation Department.

- A. Minutes of January 10, 2012 – Carolyn Bedula moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Theresa Urbanski and voted unanimously.
- B. Kathy Bagley reported that the budget is in good order.
- C. Kathy Bagley announced that Dana Roarke, caretaker of the house for fourteen years, is leaving at the end of the month. A lengthy discussion followed on the procedure for replacing Dana, the duties of the caretaker, and the income he/she or they can expect upon assuming the job.
- D. Kathy has advertised the vacancy and received nine applicants. The deadline for consideration is the end of the month. Carolyn, Mary, and Theresa volunteered to serve on a committee with Kathy to review the applications, interview the applicants and choose from among three finalists. References will be required. A lengthy discussion of the job's duties and compensation ensued.
- E. When Dana leaves, time will be needed to paint and do cleanup work before the new caretaker arrives. Interim coverage has been arranged to deal with bookings.
- F. An unrelated discussion ensued about the limited access to the first floor lavatory. Kathy said a full study had been made, the conclusion of which was that no remedy is available, at least not one that retains the integrity of an historic house.
- G. In her caretaker's report, Dana said that she was leaving two of her own chairs, a mirror, a washer and dryer, and refrigerator for the future caretaker. Kathy said she would get an appraisal for IRS purposes. When asked about the job, Dana said that it had been a delight to be there as caretaker. "I love old things, I love socializing, welcoming visitors to the house. I love gardening – all aspects of the job. Kathy is a wonderful boss – we laugh a lot." Harry suggested that she tell that to the applicants for the position.
- H. To contribute to a festive air and finish off the meeting, Mary served cake and soda. The committee expressed thanks to Dana for her service. Kathy presented Dana with a card of thanks, as well as a gift from Parks and Recreation and the Committee.
- I. Adjournment.  
Gretchen Kelly moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. Carolyn Bedula seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Doyle