

**Westampton Township
Timbuctoo Advisory Committee
Third Quarter Meeting
August 17,2019**

The meeting was called to order by Guy Weston at 12:10 PM. Attendees were Linda Hynes, Kent Pipes, Machell Pettis, Lynda Williams, Guy Weston via telephone and residents Nancy Burkley, Alan Hynes and Karen Turner.

Guy had a meeting with the NJ Division of Parks and Forestry regarding the property at 116 Church Street that we would like to convert to a Timbuctoo museum. This division is interested in developing African American Historical sites in NJ. They stated that Timbuctoo is being considered because of the archeological work that has been done, eligibility for listing on the Register of Historical places and the advantage that the property is owned by the Township. Another meeting is scheduled for September.

An inspection of this property was required by the Township. The inspection was completed in June by Kent Pipes of the Affordable Homes Group and David Barger. The property structure was determined to be adequate for the purpose we want to use it for. The property still needs to be inspected by the Township Engineer. The conversion of this property must go before the Township Zoning Board.

Grant applications have been submitted to Comcast, PNC and Bank of America. The grants range from \$5k to \$10k and can be used as general operating funds. Also, the Timbuctoo Historical Society has been registered as a New Jersey non-profit corporation.

Timbuctoo Day Planning

600 Palm Cards and 150 flyers have been ordered to promote Timbuctoo Day. We need to come up with a plan to distribute. Machell posted the Eventbrite invitation. It was decided that each person needs to register to be able to get an accurate count rather than one person registers for several people. This will also give us an email listing for future events. Guy will put the Eventbrite link on the Timbuctoo Facebook page. Email lists from previous events will be given to Machell to compile. Guy will also reach out to Historical Societies and Genealogy groups.

All support items needed from the Township has been taken care of. Machell has agreed to supply addition tents needed. Linda Hynes will provide a list of guests that will be permitted to park on site. She will also provide passes for the guest.

JoAnn will be responsible for publicity in the schools. Need ideas on how to display student artwork.

The Recreation Dept was not able to help us with food preparation. Mary Weston is now working with a food vendor. We are asking for kid friendly items at reasonable prices rather than \$8 to \$10 platters. If that is not possible, we discussed getting snack items (chips, soda, candy etc.) that we could sell. Mary will meet with the vendor this week and let us know. Still need to see if we can get a water ice or ice cream vendor.

Denita is working on Hospitality. We need a map of the tent setup, seating arrangements, re-enactment etc. Nancy suggested asking the Boy Scouts to help.

The program this year will honor Mount Moriah AME and descendants of the Rogers family. Exhibit and award artwork of RVRHS students and recognize teachers who wrote curricula about Timbuctoo. Music by Wesley AME Zion church choir, reenactment by 6th Regimen US Colored Troops and interpretive dancers.

It was agreed that we would have a conference call to finalize Timbuctoo Day on **Thursday, September 5th at 7:00 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,

Lynda Williams, Secretary