

REAL PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT

March 10, 2015

I would like to start with reporting the progress at the War Office. After a slow start due to the winter months, construction is back on track. The fireplaces and chimney are complete, walls and flooring are progressing. The first phase of the new wireless security system has been installed. To date we have bids for roof replacement, exterior paint, window repair and the HVAC system. (see attachment) The Committee will review and proceed as soon as possible. The HVAC system is the next big challenge, technology, building configuration along with energy efficiency are all in question. Bids for the unit are running between \$9,000 and \$18,000. This building was literally falling down. Steve Marshall has been working with the engineers and have found ways to bring about stability. At this point we are within budget.

Future projects at New London and East Haddam have been discussed. Both sites have the same needs, exterior trim repair, paint and window glazing. It was determined that East Haddam should be done first. Hopefully New London will be completed in time for the opening of the National Coast Guard Museum in a few years. We will be seeking grant money to cover these expenses.

The flag pole light at East Haddam is still an issue. Contact has been made with Flagman of CT. and a suggestion of a ground light that will illuminate the 35 foot pole is needed. My problem with this is vandalism and theft. As a test of the power I will purchase at a cost of \$99.00 plus shipping and try it out. If this doesn't work I will keep it for my home flag pole.

We are pleased to announce that Compatriot Burt Chapman and his wife have generously contributed the funds for the 3 picnic tables at East Haddam. We are having them built at the Corrigan-Radgowski Correctional Center in Montville at \$250.00 each.

We are also, pleased to announce that The Society of the Cincinnati has awarded us with \$1,500.00 in support of the archives in New London. The Frank Loomas Palmer Fund for \$10,000.00 has been received, allowing us to install the HVAC unit in New London.

The lease with the City of New London is moving slowly. William Fenn has reviewed and made some slight changes. It is back with Legal at the City.

On April 10, 2015 I attended the Public Hearing in Groton for the Thames River Heritage Park. They are moving into another phase, finding a Board of Directors. I met with Penny Parsekian and discussed our role. She stated that as of right now, no involvement on our part.

On March 14th the Real Property Committee and several BOM members met at the Russell Library in Middletown. (I hope it was worth the \$10.00 parking ticket most of us received) The main topic focused on Museum Operations. A motion was carried to change the days of operation. (To view meeting minutes see attachment)

Museum Operations (cont.)

Nathan Hale Schoolhouse, New London

Open: May 1st through Labor Day

Wednesdays – Sundays, 11am – 4pm

Open: After Labor Day through Columbus Day

Saturdays – Sundays, 11am – 4pm

War Office, Lebanon and Nathan Hale Schoolhouse, East Haddam

Open: May 1st through Labor Day

Fridays – Sundays, Noon – 4pm

Open: After Labor Day through Columbus Day

Saturdays – Sundays, Noon – 4pm

Merchandise is still under discussion, I would like to meet with our past docents and review what items sell best. On April 16th we have our annual Docent Appreciation Dinner, hopefully, there will be some answers and a few returnees. As of right now we are not ordering any items.

As we prepare for the upcoming season, please find it in your schedule to support us by volunteering. It's easy, just go to CTSSAR web site, click on How to Volunteer. Please view the Docent calendar to see what days are available, fill in the required boxes and dates wanted in Comments. All this will come to me direct, or just email me.

Respectfully Submitted,

David Packard

CTSSAR Real Property Steward