

**FRIENDS OF SCHUYLKILL SCHOOL**  
**Minutes of Committee Meeting 12/8/03**

1. Present at Meeting: Sandy Momyer, Dr. Noyes, Sue Weicheld, Herman John, Josh Gould, Jane Davidson, Robb Frees, Joanne Brown and Michelle Diekow
2. Minutes of 11/3/03 were approved. Dr. Noyes asked that Cathy Varady receive a copy of the minutes. Dr. Noyes will add Cathy's name to the current list serve for Friends of Schuylkill School.
3. The School Board was reorganized in November. Robb Frees is no longer president of the board; he is now the Chair of the Buildings and Grounds committee. Mark Casaday is now the president of the school board (formerly Chair of Buildings and Grounds.) A motion was put forth by Jane Davidson that Robb Frees will continue to be a member of the FOSS and seconded by Sue Weicheld. All approved.
4. Sandy Momyer communicated to the School Board on November 13<sup>th</sup> the progress of the committee, next steps and thanks and appreciation to the PASD, Dr. Noyes and various committee members of FOSS.
5. Adaptive Reuse District Administration Offices/PASD Meeting/Conference Center – Peter Benton – According to Peter's email: "With the assistance of a student intern, we measured the existing building (the drawings we had previously were inaccurate and not to scale). Using the revised drawing, he prepared a preliminary schematic layout for use of the building for school district administration. In short, the building appears large enough to accommodate the entire administration staff. However, we will have to use the existing gymnasium as an open office space with public reception. Public meetings would have to be held in the new elementary school." Dr. Noyes requested that Peter send a copy of the revised drawings to him for his review.
6. Josh Gould – RFQ – Dr. Noyes and the committee commended Josh and Michelle on an excellent job. Dr. Noyes has forwarded the RFQ to the solicitor for the school district, Ron Williams. Based upon the lack of time to meet the deadline in December, the committee agreed to push the timetable back one month. Therefore the advertising phase of the RFQ should be complete the beginning of January, with an application deadline date of June 2004. Michelle and Josh plan to meet the week of December 14<sup>th</sup>, to finalize the RFQ. Josh needs to confirm the contact persons named in the RFQ: Sandy Momyer and Peter Benton.
7. Sandy Momyer – Letters of support. Sandy informed us that each letter of support has to be specific to each grant application. She provided us with a listing of individuals including: Dr. Noyes, PASD Board President, Jane Davidson, Lee Ledbetter, Barbara Cohen, Tom Carnevale, Dale Frens, Tina Daly, Bob Wise and Peter Benton. Jane suggested obtaining letters from all municipal and historic commissions in the geographic perimeter as well as East and West Pikeland and Charlestown townships. Two to three letters of support should accompany each grant application

8. Sandy and Josh Grants – Timelines – studies/brick ‘n mortar
  - a. Sandy Momyer informed us that Schuylkill Township would provide \$10,000 in matching funds for the feasibility grant. Lee Ledbetter informed Sandy of this generous donation.
  - b. Jane Davidson commended the committee on the decision to finance a feasibility study for \$20,000. (She informed us that a lesser quality feasibility study could be done for \$10,000, but we will receive a high quality feasibility study.)
  - c. Sandy provided a listing of funding sources for the planning and studies grant that includes: Schuylkill Township, PHMC (Historic Pres. Grant and Keystone Grants), Claniel Foundation, Stewart Huston Charitable Trust, Huston Foundation, National Trust, Johanna Favrot Foundation and Preservation Services Fund.
  - d. Sandy provided a listing of funding sources for the Bricks and Mortar grant that includes: PHMC-Keystone Grants, Stewart Huston Charitable Trust, Huston Foundation, DCED-Rublely and Thompson, Chester Co. Community Foundation, Vanguard Foundation, Phoenixville Community Health Foundation (ADA requirements), Federal Heritage Funds, Schuylkill River National Heritage Area (additionally, Jane suggested both the State Heritage Fund and the Federal Heritage Fund), William Penn Foundation, Arcadia Foundation, National Trust-Save America’s Treasures, Dietrich Foundation, Musser Foundation, Phoenixville Area School District, Schuylkill Township, Private Benefactors (Foster Family & Mumma Family), Arcadia and the Department of Education. Other funding sources are available from the list prepared by Sandy
9. New Business – Robb Frees suggested the committee provide information to (1) the school board, (2) the buildings and ground committee, (3) the finance committee on a monthly basis. Additionally, he suggested that members of the committee attend these meetings. FOSS should be an agenda item for communication.
10. Public Relations – Jane suggested that any news information regarding Schuylkill school be specific to either the Historic school building, the demolished part of the school or the new Schuylkill building. The recent news article in the Daily Local, December 6<sup>th</sup>, regarding the fire company practicing on the Schuylkill school did not differentiate between the different school buildings.
11. Millstone – Who is taking care of the millstone? It is now tipped over. It needs to be taken care of. Dr. Noyes will check into the current situation and keep us informed.
12. The next meeting date will be January 5, 2004 in the Administrative building, conference room at 5:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Sue Weicheld  
12/11/03

