



Bay Shore Historical Society

Gibson-Mack-Holt House c.1820

22 Maple Avenue Bay Shore, NY 11706 (631) 665-1707
www.bayshorehistoricalsociety.org e-mail bayshohissoc@optonline.net

June 21, 2018

Meeting Notes

Barry called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and all stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance. Barry asked that we all keep Phil Perino in our thoughts and prayers (and hope that Flo has a speedy recovery). Reservation forms for the Annual Dinner along with three raffle tickets have been mailed out. The Arts Festival by the Bay was a success. There is a service for Frank Manhardt at Pinelawn on June 22.

Joanne reported there are 301 paid members. Joe reported income was \$666. There have been 100 raffle tickets sold to date. Expenses were \$397. Priscilla provided an update on community events including: (1) the Symphonic Band of Bay Shore-Brightwaters starts their summer concert series at the Band Shell on Wednesday, July 4 at 7:30 PM; (2) the Maggie Fischer Memorial Great South Bay Cross Bay Swim is July 13; (3) some bricks have been laid at the Memory Wall at the High School; (4) Alive by the Bay is returning on Tuesday nights in July and August; (5) Mr. Squillante, the Director of the Library, reminds everyone about the Museum Pass Program; (6) Bounty by the Bay – the farmers market is every Friday afternoon at the Band Shell; (7) The Brown Bag Lunch Series at the Band Shell is Tuesday's in July and August at 12:30 PM; (8) an Antique & Classic Car Show is at the Sagtikos Manor on July 8; and (9) an Antique Doll & Decoy Exhibit is at the Sagtikos Manor in July. Kelly read the minutes of the May 17, 2018 meeting.

Joe, the Chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the list of officers being nominated this year. They are: Barry Dlouhy – President, Joann Michalowski – 2nd Vice President, Kelly Zebro – Recording Secretary, Ray Di Maria – Trustee, Ellen Sherman – Trustee. Joe asked for any other nominations. There being none, the vote was taken and a unanimous yes vote was received. Officers will be installed on July 19 at the Annual Dinner.

The speaker for the evening was Reverend Brandon K. Allen, Pastor of the Bay Shore A.M.E. Church. He presented "History and Influence of the Bethel A.M.E. Church in Bay Shore". The Bethel A.M.E Church is located at 54 Brook Street in Bay Shore.

The mission of the *Bay Shore Historical Society* is to collect, preserve and share the rich history of our community and to maintain the c. 1820 Gibson-Mack-Holt House which is located at 22 Maple Ave, Bay Shore, NY. The Society's collection of photographs, memorabilia, and historic documents is open to the public free of charge on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 1pm to 4pm. For further information contact 631-665-1707 or visit the Society's website > www.bayshorehistoricalsociety.org. The *Bay Shore Historical Society* is an all-volunteer, tax exempt not-for-profit corporation as described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.



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Reverend Allen was born in Barnwell, SC. While pursuing his Master's Degree in New York City his Aunt invited him to Bay Shore for Thanksgiving in 2008. Reverend Allen was appointed Pastor of A.M.E Church of Buffalo. He lived in Buffalo for six years. In 2017, there was an opening for Pastor in Bay Shore. Reverend Allen has now been at Bethel for one year.

The A.M.E Church in Bay Shore dates to the 1800's. The First Congregational Church grew to capacity and Bethel received the building. CE Kirkup gifted the property where the church and parking lot are located. The building has many of the original stained-glass windows. The steeple was lost in a wind storm, but there are plans to replace it. The Church has gone through some renovations over time. The building can sit approximately 50 to 70 people comfortably. There are currently 85 members on roll and 35 to 40 people attend Sunday services.

The A.M.E Church grew out of Free African Society and was originally African Methodism, a sub-denomination of the United Methodist Church. The A.M.E was found by 'four horse men'. They were Richard Allen, Henry McNeal Turner, Daniel Payne and William Paul Quinn. There is a church government structure. The largest congregations are in Africa and the US. The Church incorporated in 1897.

One main interest of the Church is outreach missions. The Bethel food pantry feeds 25 to 40 families every two weeks. Bethel provided Turkeys for Thanksgiving and chickens for Christmas to families in need. There was a toy drive for Christmas and Easter baskets given to children. Backpacks and school supplies were also handed out. The Church also provides spiritual, marital, and bereavement counseling. The Church is available for funerals and marriage ceremonies.

In the year that Reverend Allen has been at Bethel there have been 11 new members and 1 member that passed away. One of the goals of Bethel is to increase participation. The Church's motto is 'we are a small church, with a big heart, serving a big god'. Sunday worship service is at 11:00 AM.

Barry thanked the Reverend for his presentation and invited everyone for refreshments.

Respectfully submitted by Kelly Zebro

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