

Morris County Heritage Commission Minutes Meeting of June 8, 2010

Present: Commissioners Dave Bogert, Larry Fast, Tracy Kinsel, Virginia Vogt, Archivist Peg Shultz and intern Kiersten Fuchs.

Absent: Commissioners Epsy Farrell, Kathy Fisher, Henry Kafel; Karen Ann Kurlander; and James Woodruff.

The meeting was called to order at the Morris County Cultural Center at 9:42 a.m. by Mr. Fast. The Open Meeting statement was read.

Minutes: May minutes were read and reviewed. Approval will be held over to the July meeting.

Financial report, Mr. Kinsel and Ms. Shultz reviewed the commission budget.

Chairman's report, Mr. Fast. May was filled with history related issues. The county historic preservation trust fund's grant cycle started with the reorganization meeting on May 5. Mr. Fast was reelected to chair that board. He, several commissioners and Ms Shultz attended the Freeholder's volunteer buffet at Frelinghuysen Arboretum. Mr. Fast also attended the Freeholder primary debate held in Chatham Twp. Mr. Fast represented the commission at the 2010 NJ State Historic Preservation conference held at Union County College in Elizabeth. His full report is attached.

Office report, Ms. Shultz. During the month of May, she continued to be busy managing the administrative, clerical and archival responsibilities, which included arranging and organizing the various appointments necessary for Kiersten Fuchs to join the staff for the summer. She is also supervising the intern, Kiersten Fuchs.

The GIS team MCHC marker location project is moving forward. When completed, a new marker webpage will be created with interactive maps. This project will feed into the GIS historic site overlay on the county web site.

She met with Jan Williams of the Planning and Development Department and the consultants from Kise Straw and Associates (KSK). KSK has been awarded the consulting contract for the historic site project update (the updated version of the Historic Site Survey conducted by the MCHC in the mid 1980s). Among the topics reviewed were the materials that can be made available to them from the Heritage Commission's various collections.

The Heritage Commission will not be hosting the September CARMA meeting at the Cultural Center. NJ DARM will be hosting the meeting in Trenton so they can present the PARIS grant awards during the meeting.

The Planning and Development Department has donated several collections of maps to be accessioned into the collection. The accessioning process will take place over the summer. The maps include the locations of historic sites in the 1980s and 1990s as well as some map sized aerial photographs that were used for construction of major roads through out Morris County. They have provided an inventory and description of the collection for us and donated a map case. However, we will need map sleeves to house the maps properly.

The veteran's burial project is continuing to move forward. As mentioned in the *Week in Review* reports, the materials are not arranged well and are in a state of decline. The early 20th century cards have started to fade. Also, the collection lacks organization (i.e. revolutionary war veteran records are intermingled with other periods through and including WWI). This will be addressed after all the cards have been entered into a data base. The Revolutionary War records, at least in this box, have to be fact checked which is slowing the data entry process down. Her full report is attached.

Subcommittee reports:

Archives: Larry Fast. Covered in office report.

Grants/Re-grants: Dave Bogert. Covered in office report.

Long Range Planning: No updates to report. The final draft is expected to be submitted by the LRP committee soon.

Marker Program: Peg Shultz. The markers identified for maintenance over the summer are as follows: Charlottsborg Forge, Kinnelon; Ralston Gristmill, Mendham; Millington Schoolhouse, Long Hill; Tuttle House, Hanover; Ringling Manor, Jefferson Twp; Lake Musconetcong, Netcong. We have room in the budget to add more. Dave Bogert suggested adding the Ford Faesch House and St John's church in Dover. Mr. Fast suggested adding the Long Hill Twp entrance marker to the list for the road department because the marker is leaning. Mr. Bogert suggested creating a seven to ten year marker maintenance schedule. Also discussed was the possibility of having a second sign painter.

The Marker/GIS project is moving along. Dan Beards has volunteered to take photos for the project. The Park Commission will take photos of markers located at their sites and forward them to us as well.

Personnel: Peg Shultz. No updates to report

Publications: Peg Shultz. Covered in office report.

Public Programs/Exhibits: Kiersten and Peg are in the early research and development phases for an exhibit featuring school houses in Morris County.

The Morristown Fall Festival will be held on Sunday, October 3 from 12 – 5 pm. There is discussion of having a "heritage/cultural corridor."

Communications: *Daily Record* articles on the "10 Most" list. Letter from the FM Kirby Foundation announcing Mr. FM Kirby will be retiring and his son S. Dillard Kirby has been appointed as president. Several newsletters were received from organizations from in and out of county.

Section 106 matters: From EBI Consulting stating application for "tower submission packet" in Florham Park was received via email.

Old business: None.

New business: None.

Adjournment: 11:12 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Peg Shultz, Archivist

The next Commission meeting will be held on **Tuesday, July 13, at 9:30 a.m.** at the Morris County Cultural Center. Please contact Peg Shultz if you are unable to attend.