

Morris County Heritage Commission

Meeting Minutes
December 10, 2019

Present: Chair Kathy Murphy, Vice Chair Larry Fast, Treasurer Esey Farrell, Marty Kane, Joe Macasek, Amery Vasso (conference call), and Freeholder Liaison John Krickus; Director Peg Shultz, History Program Development Specialist Nick Palatucci, and Archives Technician Amanda Hefferan.

Absent/Excused: John Dunado

Call to Order: Chair Kathy Murphy called the meeting to order at the Morris County Library at 9:37 a.m. She read the Open Public Meeting Statement.

Minutes: A motion was made and passed to accept the minutes from the November 12, 2019, meeting.

Financial Report:

- The 2020 departmental budget proposal was approved by county administration.
- Invoices are being processed as received.
- A new printer/scanner was ordered for Nick Palatucci.

Chair Report:

- Ms. Murphy welcomed Freeholder John Krickus.
- Chair Murphy wished all in attendance a happy holiday season; nothing further was reported.

Freeholder's Report: Freeholder Krickus informed the Commissioners of the Courthouse press release which has been posted to the county website.

Office Report: Ms. Shultz attended the Morris County Tourism Bureau's 2019 annual membership meeting in November. The meeting was held at the Cultural Center in Morristown. She was also actively engaged in the 2019 and 2020 re-grant programs, staff projects and general administrative duties. Staff activities have focused on general administrative functions, markers, and the re-grant program.

Archives Report:

- Ms. Hefferan continues the cleaning and rehousing projects on the archival collection.
- Several research requests were received.

Subcommittee Reports:

Grants:

- The Heritage Commission was awarded \$37,022 for the 2020 re-grant program.
- The Commission received thirteen applications for the 2020 re-grant program; requests have exceeded available funds.
- Outside reviewers will be Carrie Fellows-Hunterdon County Cultural and Heritage Commission, Linda Barth-NJ League of Historical Societies, and Richard Kearney-William Paterson University Librarian.

Long-Range Plan:

- Updates to the Long-Range Plan were discussed.

Marker Program: Mr. Palatucci is continuing to work on possible location sites and the preliminary text for the county entrance replacement markers.

Personnel: The Commissioners discussed the need to fill the open Commissioner positions. Chair Murphy again asked that suggestions be submitted to herself and Ms. Shultz.

Publications:

- Articles for the Winter 2019/2020 newsletter were discussed.

Public Programs:

- The Veterans' Day exhibit was installed by John Torkos in November and will be on view until December 15. The theme is "Welcome Home from the Great War."
- A small "Winter in Morris County" exhibit has been curated and will be installed next week at the county administration building. The exhibit case has been moved from the fifth floor to the fourth-floor elevator vestibule.
- MCHC staff will meet with the library administration staff about exhibits for larger cases at a future time.
- Mr. Palatucci and Ms. Shultz are working on programming for the coming 50th-anniversary celebration.

Communications: Several newsletters and event notifications were received.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:13 a.m.

The next Commission meeting will be held in the Commission's conference room at the Morris County Library on Tuesday, **January 14, 2020, at 9:30 a.m.** Please inform the staff if you are unable to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Nick Palatucci
History Program Development Specialist