Morris County Heritage Commission Minutes Meeting of February 11, 2014

Present: Commissioners Larry Fast, Epsey Farrell, Kathy Fisher, Joseph Macasek, Kathy Murphy, Elliott Ruga, Virginia Vogt, Archivist/Acting Director Margaret Shultz and Freeholder Kathy DeFillippo.

Absent: Commissioners Miriam Morris and Bonnie-Lynn Nadzeika

Call to order: Commissioner Larry Fast called the meeting to order at the County Cultural Center at 9:39 a.m. He read the Open Meeting Statement and welcomed the Commissioners and Freeholder DeFillippo.

Minutes: The draft January minutes were approved as amended by motion of Commissioner Farrell and seconded by Commissioner Fisher.

Organizational: New Commissioner Joe Macasek was welcomed. He will sit on the Publications Committee and Exhibits Committee.

Financial report: The 2014 budget has not been approved yet but Freeholders approved \$1000 for expenses until the budget is approved.

Freeholder report: Freeholder DeFillippo noted the Freeholders are currently reviewing the 2014 budget and setting a zero increase. The Capital Budget is almost finalized.

Chairman's report: attached to the meeting package for February 11, 2014.

Office Report: attached to the meeting package for February 11, 2014.

- 1. The Parks Commission is moving into the Cultural Center where the MCHC offices are. This requires MCHC to move their meeting location and times, and is impacting office computer networking and connectivity.
- 2. The Netcong Church Marker was delivered and will be installed in the spring.
- 3. Working on special project on former County Clerks for the County Clerk's office.

Committee reports:

Archives: Kathy Fisher, Chair

The MUA has completed about 90% of their move out of the Archive room.

Grants/Re-grants: Bonnie-Lynn Nadzeika, Chair

See Archivist/Acting Director's report. No further information.

Long-Range Plan: Virginia Vogt, Chair

See Long Range Plan Annual Review. The Commissioners discussed the current long range plan and its goals. The next long range plan review will encompass a 3 year plan which will meet grant criteria. This plan will begin in 2015. Overall the MCHC is exceeding its goals as defined in the current 5 year long range plan.

Marker program: Kathy Fisher, Chair

See Archivist/Acting Director's report. <u>Kinnelon Butternut Tree</u>: the parties are waiting for the DNA report results.

Personnel: Bonnie-Lynn Nadzeika, Chair

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No further information.

Public Programs/Exhibits: Bonnie-Lynn Nadzeika, Chair:

MCHC is awaiting budget approval to plan 2014 programs; but plans to partner with other agencies on programs thereby reducing expenses.

Publications: Elliott Ruga, Chair

- <u>Victor's Crown e-book conversion</u>: work is progressing and chapters 1-8 are now completed.
- <u>Newsletter:</u> Discussion on Spring 2014 newsletter centered on articles and newsletter publication date of April 1st. Commissioners Farrell, Morris and Ruga are finalizing articles and editing them.
- Spring 2014: articles will be sent out for editing.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Commissioner Macasek informed the commission about the "Morris Canal Greenway" initiative and its progress. A Morris Canal Greenway Conference is scheduled for March 27 in Morris County.

Adjournment: the meeting was adjourned at 12.03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Kathy Fisher, Acting Secretary

The next Commission meeting will be held on **Friday, March 14, 2014** at 9:30 a.m. Please inform Ms. Shultz if you are unable to attend.