

Morris County Heritage Commission Minutes

Meeting of February 10, 2015

Present: Chairman Larry Fast and Commissioners Esey Farrell, Kathy Fisher, Joyce Kanigel, Joseph Macasek, Miriam Morris, Kathy Murphy, Elliott Ruga, Archivist/Acting Director Margaret Shultz, and Freeholder Director Kathryn DeFillippo.

Apology: Bonnie-Lynn Nadzeika.

Call to order: Chairman Fast called the meeting to order at the County Cultural Center at 10:30 a.m. He read the Open Meeting Statement.

Minutes: the minutes for January 16, 2015 were accepted as amended.

Freeholder Report: Freeholder Director DeFillippo spoke regarding the recent resolution to support the Morris County Historic Preservation Trust funding of historic church buildings. It has clarified the freeholders' positions. There may be subsequent pressure for a resolution for the freeholders to vote on each individual project. This would be counter to the committee process, calling into question the work of the Review Board.

- Commissioner Murphy expressed concerns about the non-implementation of the Needs Assessment Study prepared by CCAHA.
- The move from the Cultural Center: Commissioner Murphy and her son Ryan have donated many hours in planning and expediting the move. Other commissioners have been putting in hours which underline the need for more personnel. Freeholder Director DeFillippo confirmed that there is a budget for one full-time staff person and a part-time person. Management of the archives and commission have been understaffed for years. She aired a suggestion that library staff may be available to assist with the archives.
- Morris County Tourism is proposing to erect a kiosk at the County Library. The Heritage Commission may be able to include information in the kiosk.

Financial Report: the Commission is operating on the temporary budget.

- There is an invoice for moving the microfilm reader.

Chairman's Report: no attachment. Chairman Fast had been supporting Acting Director Shultz on issues relating to the move. He had also been engaged with the debate about Morris County grant funding of historic church preservation.

Office Report: no attachment.

Archives and Facilities

- The move from the Cultural Center was almost complete.
- Commissioners Kanigel, Macasek and Morris had joined Commissioner Murphy and her son to help Acting Director Shultz pack boxes at the Cultural Center. (Commissioners Fisher and Ruga then joined the team at the Library after the meeting, moving and unpacking boxes, along with John Dunado from Rockaway Township Historical Society.)
- The computer was hooked up on Friday, February 6.
- The Public Safety assessment would include the silver nitrate films.
- The high density rolling shelving is being designed.

Committee reports:

Archives: Kathy Murphy and Joe Macasek, Co-Chairs. See above.

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

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Acting Director Shultz is coordinating with NJHC regarding changes in the requirements for the interim report, because the New Jersey is transitioning to a three year cycle.

Long-Range Plan: Epsey Farrell, Kathy Fisher, Co-Chairs

The plan will bear on the 2016 budget. It was recommended that the committee start to consider updating it in March.

Marker program: Kathy Fisher, Chair: no report.

Personnel: Bonnie-Lynn Nadzeika, Chair

Commissioner Nadzeika is aware that the annual review is pending.

Public Programs/Exhibits: Bonnie-Lynn Nadzeika, Chair

No further report.

Publications: Elliott Ruga, Chair

It was agreed to postpone the newsletter until after the Commission is settled at the library, possibly in the summer.

Old Business:

No further business.

New Business: Commissioner Farrell voiced the commissioners' gratitude to Freeholder Director DeFillippo for her help and support.

Adjournment: the meeting was adjourned at noon.

Respectfully submitted,
Miriam Morris, Secretary

The next Commission meeting will be held on **Tuesday, March 17 2015 at 9:30 a.m.
at the County Library.**

Please inform Ms. Shultz if you are unable to attend.