Morris County Heritage Commission Minutes

Meeting of April 11, 2017

Present: Chair Kathy Murphy, Martin Kane, Larry Fast, Epsey Farrell, Joyce Kanigel, Joseph Macasek, Archivist/Acting Director Margaret Shultz, and Archives Technician Amanda Hefferan.

Absent: John Dunado, Bonnie-Lynn Nadzeika, Kathy Fisher and Freeholder Director Kathryn DeFillippo.

Call to order: Chair Murphy called the meeting to order at the Morris County Library at 9:40 a.m. She read the Open Meeting Statement.

Minutes: The minutes of the March 21, 2017, meeting were accepted as amended.

Freeholder Report: No Freeholder Report for April 11, 2017.

Financial Report:

See the expenditure budget report attached to the meeting package for April 11, 2017, covering activity from January 1, 2017, through April 10, 2017.

Chair Report:

Treasurer Kathy Fisher has been placed on a leave of absence by the Commission Chair, following the procedure outlined in Article 4, Section 6 of the Commission bylaws. During her absence, Epsey Farrell has been appointed to act as interim treasurer.

See Chair Murphy's report attached to the meeting package for April 11, 2017.

Archivist/Acting Director's Report: See the Archivist/Acting Director's Report dated April 11, 2017, attached to the meeting package for April 11, 2017.

Committee reports:

Archives: Kathy Murphy and Joe Macasek, Co-Chairs

See Archivist/Acting Director's report above and attached.

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

Acting Director Shultz reported that she and Chair Murphy had worked with members of the Montville Historical Society to straighten out issues with the MHS's re-grant project; their vouchers have now been signed and sent to vendors.

Long-Range Plan - Epsey Farrell, Chair; Kathy Murphy, Interim Co-Chair

- Commissioner Farrell reported that most year-one goals had been accomplished and that the commission had met the LRP's year-two goal to hire Amanda Hefferan as a full-time archives technician.
- Commissioner Farrell noted that the LRP's e-book goal is on hold; Commissioner Fast will confer with Commissioner Dunado concerning completion of the project.
- Commissioner Farrell suggested creating a one-page, bullet-pointed list to update commissioners and county administration regarding LRP goals that have been accomplished or not accomplished.

Marker Program: Kathy Murphy, Interim Chair

- Commissioner Farrell plans to speak with Janet Foster about wording for the county marker for the Mount Kemble Home.
- Acting Director Shultz reported that Commissioner Dunado had requested a new marker for the Ford-Faesch house. The current marker has a mistake in its text.
- Commissioner Fast reported that text for a new marker at the Long Hill Railroad Station will soon be drafted.

Personnel: Bonnie-Lynn Nadzeika, Chair

- Archives Technician Hefferan's paperwork for full-time status has been approved and will be effective May 15, 2017.
- Ms. Hefferan reported she had attended a workshop on conservation of audio-visual collections on April 4th. She is registered for two additional classes in the Philadelphia area in September and November.

Public Programs, Bonnie-Lynn Nadzeika, Chair

- The second annual New Jersey Canals and Local History Symposium was held at the Frelinghuysen
 Arboretum on March 25, 2017. This event was co-sponsored by the Morris County Heritage Commission
 and the Canal Society of New Jersey. The event was sold out and received good reviews. Commissioner
 Joseph Macasek, who also serves as vice president of the Canal Society, thanked the MCHC for cosponsoring the event, and the Arboretum staff for their good work.
- The Morris County Heritage Commission participated in a commemoration of the 100th anniversary of World War I in Wharton on April 1, 2017. Acting Director Shultz gave a presentation on WWI memorials in Morris County. She also prepared displays for the event. She is planning to hold another commemoration of the World War I centennial at the county library in October.

Publications - John Dunado, Chair

Acting Director Shultz reported that the contents of the Spring 2017 edition of the Heritage Review are being drafted. In the absence of Publications Committee Chair John Dunado, Commissioner Joyce Kanigel was asked to write a Commissioners' Corner column.

New Business:

- During Commissioner Kathy Fisher's leave of absence, Chair Kathy Murphy will step in to fill her place on the Long-Range Plan Committee, and Commissioner Joyce Kanigel will fill in for her on the Re-grant Committee.
- Commissioner Larry Fast, liaison to the MCHC from the Morris County Historic Preservation Trust (MCHPT), reported that the Trust had received 34 applications.
- Commissioner Fast will see that the Heritage Commission donation in memory of David Mitros, will be sent to the Bethlehem Steelworkers archive.
- Commissioner Fast spoke with directors of the 'Drive-by History' television program about a Craftsman's Farm project.

Old Business:

- Acting Director Shultz spoke with Linda Roetman, Riverdale Zoning Officer, regarding relocating the
 county's marker at the Slater's Mill site. The property is under private ownership and has fallen into
 disrepair. The owner is looking for funding assistance to repair the building and does not want to
 demolish the structure, but there are serious structural problems, such as a hole in the roof.
- Acting Director Shultz is also helping Linda Roetman identify possible funding sources for restoration of the Riverdale 'doughboy' monument. Commissioner Martin Kane noted that Bob Wagner, who led the restoration of the Dover 'doughboy' restoration, might be available to consult.

Correspondence:

The MCHC received an invitation from the Rockaway Township Historical Society for a ground-breaking ceremony and archaeology presentation at the Ford-Faesch House. This will be held on Saturday, May 6, at 10:30 a.m., rain or shine.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Joyce Kanigel (for John Dunado, MCHC secretary)

The next Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 9, 2017, at 9:30 a.m. at the Commission Conference Room at the County Library.

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