Morris County Heritage Commission Minutes Meeting of June 14, 2013

Present: Commissioners Larry Fast, Epsey Farrell, Kathy Fisher, Miriam Morris, Elliott Ruga, James Woodruff and Archivist/Acting Director Margaret Shultz.

Absent: Commissioners Kathy Murphy, Bonnie-Lynn Nadzeika, Virginia Vogt, Intern Amanda Hefferan and Freeholder John Krickus.

Call to order: Larry Fast called the meeting to order at the County Cultural Center at 9:36 a.m. He read the Open Meeting Statement.

Minutes: the May minutes were read and approved with abstentions by Commissioners Farrell and Woodruff.

Financial report: the monthly budget for 2013 was attached to the meeting package for June 14, 2013. The May equipment expenditure was for the annual maintenance agreement for the microfilm reader.

Freeholder report: None. Freeholder John Krickus had responded personally to the meeting notice from Chairman Fast.

Chairman's report: attached to the meeting package for June 14, 2013.

- Diane Publishing: David Mitros has attempted to contact Herman Barron about specific titles but without response, which puts more focus on e-books.
- · NJ350: Chairman Fast will meet today to discuss plans with Sara Cureton (NJHC)

Office Report: attached to the meeting package for June 14, 2013.

- Acting Director Shultz has begun work on the Final Report for the NJHC 2013 regrant program.
- Marker program: Freeholder Krickus recommended a Theodore Roosevelt site: information is needed to see if the site fits the criteria. The cost could be covered by a freeholder appropriation.
- Marker wording choice for German Valley: Commissioners preferred version 1, but there was discussion over the use of the word "diaspora," and it was agreed to find alternate wording.
- Understanding Section 106 workshop: a County memo has gone out stressing the importance and consequences of noncompliance and "strongly recommends" attendance at the workshop, suggesting one key representative from each township. There is still a possibility of attendance earning a Certificate of Education Unit for county employees.
- New Web page: Commissioners selected color sample number 4, but requested a less generic, more courthouse-defining image.

Committee reports:

Archives: Jim Woodruff, Chair

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

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

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

Long-Range Plan: Virginia Vogt, Chair

No further report

Morris County Heritage Commission Minutes Meeting of June 14, 2013

Marker program: Kathy Fisher, Chair

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

Personnel: James Woodruff, Chair:

• Commissioner Woodruff is waiting for midyear papers from the county human resources department.

Public Programs/Exhibits: James Woodruff, Chair:

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

Publications: Elliott Ruga, Chair.

- Commissioner Ruga had worked with a sample of the <u>Slave Records of Morris</u>
 <u>County</u> (150 pages) and established that conversion to an e-book would be
 approximately \$500. David Mitros would like to see <u>Gone to Wear the Victor's</u>
 <u>Crown</u> converted, giving him an opportunity to make corrections and update the
 reference section. Commissioner Ruga will look into price comparisons.
- Regarding the special newsletter online edition, see Archivist/Acting Director's
 report. The plan is for this to be available by July 4. Commissioner Farrell
 expressed concern about meeting the pre-September 20 deadline for the fall issue.
 Amanda Hefferan prepared Quips and Quotes last summer: needed is a
 Commissioner's Corner article.

Communications: Secretary Morris passed out notices and newsletters for review.

Old Business: none.

New Business:

- Commissioner Fisher reported on activity at the Crossroads of the Revolution NHA;
 Richard Viet has joined the Board, there are several initiatives including updating the website, signage, activity books and a membership drive.
- Commissioners Fisher and Morris introduced the Pathways of History Museum Tour project. This year it will be on October 12 and 13 and include eighteen sites.

Adjournment: the meeting was adjourned at 12:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Miriam Morris, Secretary

The next Commission meeting will be held on <u>Friday</u>, July 12, at 9:30 a.m. Please inform Ms. Shultz if you are unable to attend.