

# Morris County Heritage Commission

## Meeting Minutes

### March 12, 2019

**Present:** Chair Kathy Murphy, Vice Chair Larry Fast, Epsy Farrell, John Manna, Joyce Kanigel (by conference call), Joe Macasek, and Amery Vasso (by conference call); Acting Director Peg Shultz and Archives Technician Amanda Hefferan.

**Absent/Excused:** John Dunado and Marty Kane.

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

**Minutes:** A motion was made to accept the minutes for February 14, 2019.

**Freeholder Report:** No report was presented.

#### **Financial Report:**

- The county budget is expected to be approved and adopted by the end of March.
- The Commission has brought in more appropriation credits than expected through the sale of our books to individuals and to the Washington Headquarters National Park.

#### **Chair Report:**

- Chair Murphy thanked the Commissioners and staff for all the work put in to finish and getting the Dublin marker installed. She also thanked those who attended the dedication event.
- The 2018 annual report is being compiled by Chair Murphy and will be presented at the next meeting

#### **Office Report:**

- Ms. Shultz reported that a logo was created for the MCHC 50th anniversary printed materials.
- Materials relating to 9/11 are being accessioned.
- Ms. Shultz gave a presentation on the women's suffrage movement in Morris County to the Morristown Chapter of the DAR on March 3. It was well received and she was asked to present it at the DAR State Conference at the end of the month.
- A new printer/scanner was ordered for Ms. Shultz's office because IT could affect repairs on the existing unit.
- Building and grounds measured for the new door to be added to the oversize archive room.

#### **Archives Report:**

- Ms. Hefferan continues the cleaning and rehousing projects on the archival collection.
- Ms. Hefferan will be attending the following workshops offered by CCAHA:
  - April 4 – *Your Photograph Scrapbook: Identification and Preservation*
  - April 4 and 5 – *Exposed: The Exhibition of Paper-Based Materials – Symposium & Reception*
  - May 15 – *Disaster Response and Recovery: A Hands-On Intensive Workshop*
  - May 30 – *Preservation on a Shoestring: Creative Solutions for Storage Challenges- Webinar*
- Multiple research requests were received during the month. Staff is working through them.

#### **Subcommittee Reports:**

##### **Grants:**

- The 2019 re-grant payment vouchers will be sent out once the county budget is adopted.
- The 2020 CHPP grant application is being written and is due in the middle of April. Ms. Shultz wants to have it completed by the end of March.
- Vice Chair Fast updated the Commission on the Supreme Court decision regarding grant funding to churches. Ms. Shultz discussed how it may affect the future of our re-grant program.

### **Marker Program:**

- The marker dedication was held for the Dublin neighborhood on March 3. It was very well attended by the public, Freeholders, local elected officials, and dignitaries.
- The Lake Hopatcong Railroad Station marker text will be drafted during the spring. It is the next marker to be installed.
- Ms. Shultz reached out to the marker vendor for pricing and design possibilities on the larger roadside historic site markers. The larger signs are being considered for new county entrance markers.
  - The number of markers, locations, and text will be drafted by the marker committee to present to the Commission by the May meeting.

### **Publications:**

- The spring edition of the newsletter has been drafted and is in the layout phase.
- Ms. Shultz suggested the commission take a look at the brochure to see if updates are needed.
- The fall edition of the newsletter will include, a Bakelite article. The article will connect with the public program we are co-hosting with the Roebling Chapter of the Society for Industrial Archaeology. An exhibit in the MCL is also being considered.

### **Public Programs:**

- On April 7, Peg Shultz will give a presentation to the Morristown, Parsippanong, and Ferro Monte chapters of the DAR on the history of the Morris County Courthouse and the restoration of Lady Justice. The program will be held at the Morris County Library.
- The MCHC will co-sponsor the annual Local History Symposium with the Canal Society of New Jersey on April 27. The program will be held at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum's Haggerty Center.
- The MCHC will co-sponsor a public program with the MCL on April 29. The talk will focus on George Washington and the Revolutionary War in Morris County.
- On May 23, "Remembering the Revolutionary War" will be presented at the Morris County Library. The MCHC will co-sponsor the program with the MCL.
- On October 5, the Haggerty Center has been reserved for the presentation about Bakelite.
- The "Ties that Bind" exhibit is being installed at the MCL to celebrate Black History Month. The exhibit was funded in part through the re-grant program.
- Ms. Shultz is planning to do two lunch-and-learn programs over the summer focused on changes to the re-grant program and grant writing basic tips and strategies.
- The Commission plans to attend both the Wharton Canal Day and Morristown's Fall Festival.
- Ms. Shultz is working on program themes for the coming 50<sup>th</sup>-anniversary celebration.
- An exhibition schedule has been created.

### **Long-Range Plan:**

- A second meeting to finalize the executive summary is being planned for late March.

**Communications:** Several newsletters were received.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:19 a.m.

The next Commission meeting will be held in the Commission's Conference Room at the Morris County Library on Tuesday, **April 9, 2019, at 9:30 a.m.** Please inform the staff if you are unable to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Hefferan  
(Substituting for John Manna, Heritage Commission Secretary)