Morris County Heritage Commission Minutes Meeting of October 08, 2013

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

Absent: Commissioners Epsey Farrell, Bonnie-Lynn Nadzeika and Freeholder John Krickus.

Call to order: Larry Fast called the meeting to order at the County Cultural Center at 9:37 a.m. He read the Open Meeting Statement.

Minutes: The September minutes were read and approved with abstentions by Commissioners Murphy and Woodruff.

Financial report: The monthly budget for 2013 was attached to the meeting package for October 08, 2013. Budget for 2014 had been submitted to the county treasurer in July.

Freeholder report: No response from the Freeholders.

Chairman's report: His report is attached to the meeting package for October 08, 2013. Following up to previous meeting discussions of the Lady Justice restoration project undertaken by the county Buildings and Grounds department, the commission agreed to provide advice to the superintendant when requested. An RFP was prepared earlier in the year for the courthouse HSR and was reviewed and approved by the county purchasing officer. The project remains active but is contingent on securing funding.

Office Report: Her full report attached to the meeting package for October 08, 2013. Archival storage: County Administrator John Bonanni has discouraged the return of items to the Cultural Center while future plans are under consideration. There have been small improvements at Morris View. Commissioner Murphy will email Freeholder Deputy Director, Scapicchio about the safety and protection of the county's history archives.

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

Commissioner Vogt confirmed that the Commission is on schedule and will be reviewing the plan in the New Year.

Marker program: Kathy Fisher, Chair

See Archivist/Acting Director's report.

Personnel: James Woodruff, Chair:

No further report

Public Programs/Exhibits: James Woodruff, Chair:

See Archivist/Acting Director's report.

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Publications: Elliott Ruga, Chair.

Acting Director Shultz and David Mitros have continued to edit the converted text *for Gone to Wear the Victor's Crown*. It is taking five hours per chapter. The first chapter is ready for proof reading. The index will have to be created

Newsletter calendar: Commissioners agreed that, given modern calendar availability/technology, inserting a limited calendar of events into the newsletter is too time consuming and inefficient, and it will be left out of future newsletters.

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

Old Business:

There was no old business.

New Business:

Commissioner Ruga: the boardwalk with a Morris Canal overlook in the middle of Boonton has been condemned and needs a solution. Commissioner Murphy suggested approaching Green Acres and the Land Conservancy.

Commissioner Murphy updated the commissioners on the proposed River Road bridge replacement in Mount Olive. It appears that this historic stone structure is most likely to be lost.

Adjournment: the meeting was adjourned at 12.01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Miriam Morris, Secretary

The next Commission meeting will be held on **Tuesday**, **November 12** at 9:30 a.m. Please inform Ms. Shultz if you are unable to attend.