Morris County Heritage Commission Minutes Meeting of October 13, 2015

Present: Chairman Larry Fast and Commissioners, Kathy Fisher, Joyce Kanigel, Joseph Macasek, Miriam Morris and Archivist/Acting Director Margaret Shultz.

Absent: Epsey Farrell, Kathy Murphy, Bonnie-Lynn Nadzeika, and Freeholder Director Kathryn DeFillippo.

Call to order: Chairman Fast called the meeting to order at the Morris County Library at 9:42 a.m. He read the Public Open Meeting Statement.

Minutes: the minutes for September 08, 2015 were accepted as amended.

Freeholder Report: no report: see Chair and Archivist/Acting Director's report.

Financial Report: see the Expenditure Budget Activity to 10/1/2015 attached to the meeting package for October 13, 2015. Expenditures are detailed on separate spread sheets maintained by Acting Director Shultz subtitled "matching 0120120175100023-0120120175100298." Also attached to the package for October 13, is a detailed 2016 Operating and Expense Budget Summary proposal dated Thursday, October 8. Acting Director Shultz has incorporated some savings.

Chair Report: see the Chair Report for September, 2015 attached to the meeting package for October 13, 2015.

Archivist/Acting Director's Report: attached to the meeting package for October 13, 2015.

Personnel: The tentative start date for Amanda Hefferan is October 15. She is till awaiting Medical Services clearance.

Grants/Re-grants: Application submission deadline is November 10. The reviewers may meet in the week of or after Thanksgiving. PDF applications will be emailed to commissioners and outside reviewers as they are received. The paper original and one copy will be kept on file in the commission offices.

E-book: Kiersten Paine has been in touch with David Mitros and Chairman Fast, who will take over the eBook from Elliott Ruga. Kiersten is hoping to complete in two weeks. The commissioners discussed payment retrieval from sales of the eBook.

Web page: Maintenance of the commissions webpage will be shifted to at which point the Heritage Commission will need personnel to handle the coordination.

Committee reports:

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

See Archivist/Acting Director's report above and attached. Chairman Fast had spoken with Ann Grossi, County Clerk. There may be some overlap between the Heritage Commission and Court archives. This will be addressed during 2016.

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

See Archivist/Acting Director's report attached. Problems with the Heritage Commission link have been corrected on the Morris County home page.

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

The co-chairs have some ideas for personnel, archives and the marker program for a draft for future discussion.

Marker Program: Kathy Fisher, Chair: see Archivist/Acting Director's report.

Morris County Heritage Commission Minutes

Meeting of October 13, 2015 Draft

- Commissioner Fisher reintroduced the possibility of completing marker(s) for the Jersey City Reservoir.
- Canal Street marker: work is ongoing. Bob Goller is helping with the authentication. Commissioner Fisher will ask David Mitros which agency owns the rectangular "Morris Canal National Registered Landmark" sign, which the proposed marker would replace.
- There is a marker in need of attention at the top of Schooley's Mountain near May Road.

Personnel: Bonnie-Lynn Nadzeika, Chair: see Archivist/Acting Director's report attached.

Public Programs/Exhibits: Bonnie-Lynn Nadzeika, Chair

Acting Director Shultz will book the room at the Haggerty Center for the joint Canal Society/MCHC History Symposium in April 2016. She requested an alternate date.

Publications: see Chair Report attached.

Larry accepted the position of interim chair of the Publications Committee. Commissioner Macasek expressed interest in future e-book publication.

Heritage Review fall issue:

Aiming for all the material to be submitted by the first week in November. Articles:

- Piccatinny: Acting Director Shultz
- Introductions: Amanda Hefferan and new commissioner
- Move update by Kathy Murphy
- A "save the date" box for the Canal Society/Commission joint symposium planned for April at the Haggerty Center
- Quips and Quotes were discussed and Peg thinks she can look for material on line: possible anniversary subject matter e.g. the sinking of the Lusitania, the first phone conversation with Theodore Vail, Watson, Bell.
- Commissioner's Corner: Commissioner Fisher will compose an article on the problems of the promotion of false history.
- She recommended the recent Canal talk by Commissioner Macasek based on new findings in the archives, possible title: Working the Morris Canal. Joe will think it over.
- An article on decommissioning of the Canal by Bob Goller was suggested, but would not be ready before the Spring issue at the earliest.
- Commissioner Fisher also suggested centennial articles. Chairman Fast will look at the previously published list.

Old Business:

Commissioner Macasek reported on progress with the Morris Canal Greenway.

New Business: No new business to report.

Adjournment: the meeting was adjourned at 11:59 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Miriam Morris, Secretary

The next Commission meeting will be held at the County Library on Tuesday, November 10, 2015 at 9:30 a.m.

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