

**Morris County Heritage Commission Minutes
Meeting of April 11, 2014**

Present: Commissioners Larry Fast, Esey Farrell, Kathy Fisher, Joyce Kanigel, Joseph Macasek, Miriam Morris, Kathy Murphy, Bonnie-Lynn Nadzeika, Elliott Ruga Archivist/Acting Director Margaret Shultz and Freeholder Kathy DeFillippo (until 11:00 a.m.).

Absent: none

Call to order: Commissioners Larry Fast called the meeting to order at the County Cultural Center at 9:32 a.m. He read the Open Meeting Statement, and welcomed Commissioner Kanigel to the group.

Minutes: The draft March minutes were approved as corrected by motion of Commissioner Farrell and seconded by Commissioner Macasek.

Financial report: a budget balance dated April 7, 2014 was attached to the package for April 11, 2014. The 2014 budget has been approved and became available on April 10.

Freeholder report:

- Freeholder DeFillippo has been looking at two possible locations for housing the Morris County Archives and associated office and meeting space: temporarily in the current location on the 3rd floor at Morris View, spreading the load through more area, or permanently moving to the former food pantry below the Homeless Shelter. The estimated cost of rehabilitating the space had been four hundred thousand dollars several years ago, and this expenditure was not part of the 2014 capital budget. Freeholder DeFillippo is examining how to go forward. Also mentioned were potential sites in Berkshire valley and Mount Olive.
- Commissioner Farrell raised the question of a possible deed restriction that requires the Cultural Center to be used for cultural purposes, a role filled by The Heritage Commission since the 1970s.
- Freeholder DeFillippo has been following up with the job status for Archivist/Acting Director with Human Resources Director Cathy Burd. Peg Shultz will answer directly to Mary Jo Buchanan, Assistant County Administrator, but should be tied to an appropriate department for general communication purposes.
- Chairman Fast expressed the Commission's appreciation for Freeholder DeFillippo's work.

Chairman's report: attached to the meeting package for April 11, 2014.

Subsequent to preparation of the report, Ray Chang had invited Chairman Fast to fill the newly vacated position of liaison to the Morris County Preservation Trust Review Board. This would be for the 2014 season, and Chairman Fast's experience would be invaluable including projects that began during his previous tenure with the Review Board. Commissioner Fisher made a motion that the Morris County Heritage Commission would recommend Chairman Fast to accept the position on the Morris County Review Board for the 2014 grant round. Seconded by Commissioner Nadzeika. Unanimously approved.

Office Report: attached to the meeting package for April 11, 2014.

- Archives: members of the Park Commission have placed inappropriate items in the archive storage without notifying the Acting Director/Archivist. There have also been disruptions in the MCHC office: to be raised with the Assistant County Administrator.
- Publications, *Gone to Wear the Victor's Crown* e-book: Acting Director Shultz has received a promising resumé from a well qualified intern to work on the project.

**Morris County Heritage Commission Minutes
Meeting of April 11, 2013**

Committee reports:

Archives: Kathy Fisher, 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: Chair not filled

See Long Range Plan Annual Review. No further action.

Marker program: Kathy Fisher, Chair

See Archivist/Acting Director's report.

Kinnelon Butternut Tree: the parties are waiting for the DNA report results.

Personnel: Bonnie-Lynn Nadzeika, Chair

See above under the Freeholder Report.

Public Programs/Exhibits: Bonnie-Lynn Nadzeika, Chair:

Commissioner Macasek and Acting Director Shultz will look into the MCHC's hosting or co-hosting a public program on the Morris Canal Greenway.

Publications: Elliott Ruga, Chair

See Archivist/Acting Director's report. Commissioner Macasek suggested that the MCHC could be a future conduit for new publications available through Morris County historical societies and historians.

Old Business:

Commissioner Macasek reported that the Morris Canal Greenway Conference on March 27 had been highly successful. There will be follow up with Morris County participants to continue promoting and developing the greenway although not actively supported by the Morris County government.

Morris Canal Pier removal/protection in Denville: the meeting has been postponed. Commissioner Ruga offered to attend.

New Business:

Commissioner Fisher: the D.A.R. are looking for a new location for a stone marker in Chatham and are seeking a MCHC recommendation. The MCHC would endorse the recommendation of former Commissioner Mary Prendergast.

Adjournment: the meeting was adjourned at 11.58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Miriam Morris, Secretary

The next Commission meeting will be held on **Tuesday, May 13, 2014** at 9:30 a.m.
Please inform Ms. Shultz if you are unable to attend.