

**Morris County Heritage Commission Minutes
Meeting of July 13, 2010**

Present: Commissioners Dave Bogert, Larry Fast, Tracy Kinsel, Kathy Fisher, Henry Kafel Virginia Vogt, James Woodruff Archivist Peg Shultz and intern Kiersten Fuchs.

Absent: Commissioners Epsy Farrell and Karen Ann Kurlander.

The meeting was called to order at the Morris County Cultural Center at 9:35 a.m. by Mr. Fast. The Open Meeting statement was read.

Minutes: The May and June minutes were reviewed and approved.

Financial Report: Mr. Kinsel and Ms. Shultz reviewed the commission budget.

Freeholder Report: Freeholder Murray reported the 2011 county budget issues were being reviewed by the budget committee. The freeholders are facing challenges of controlling taxes and maintaining services. He advised the commission History and Heritage issues continue to be important to the freeholders.

Chairman's Report: Mr. Fast. On June 2, Mr. Fast attended the 2010 NJ State Historic Preservation Conference held at Union County College in Elizabeth. This is the annual conference that brings together the various stakeholders in the historic community and government. Commissioner Bogert was also in attendance with a very impressive booth in the vendor area for Preserve Greystone. June also saw the most intense work and wrap-up of the Morris County Historic Preservation Trust Fund grant cycle. Twenty-seven projects in fifteen towns received funding this year totaling \$2.5 million. Hearings and meetings were held several times a week during the first two weeks of June; Mr. Fast presented the board's recommendations to the Freeholders at their work session on June 23. The Freeholder Board voted to accept the recommendations at their meeting that evening.

The Historic Trust Fund would like to partner with the Heritage Commission in a public presentation, tentatively in late September, to do a work session for historic groups and governments who would like to apply for the 2011 grant cycle. As with our last program, the Heritage Commission would host it at the Cultural Center. MCHPTF would provide the speakers and content.

For the Heritage Commission, Mr. Fast handled several small tasks such as the June personnel review sign-off and helping with the photos of the markers for the GIS project. His full report is attached.

Office Report: Ms. Shultz. During the month of June, she continued to be busy managing the administrative, clerical and archival responsibilities. She is also supervising the intern, Kiersten Fuchs.

Our final report for the NJHC has been completed, approved by the county treasurer and sent off to Sara Cureton at the NJHC ahead of the due date.

The Marker/GIS project is moving along. Dan Beards has taken many photos for the project. Dan I have also been working on the text for the marker site descriptions. The GIS department would like to have all the images by July 15.

Ruth Pace is looking forward to showing the second sign painter her painting technique. Paint and supplies have been ordered them from The Painting Place in Denville and Lake Shore Industries. The road department has dropped off three signs to our offices from Pequannock to be painted. Ruth will show the second sign painter her technique here rather than on the road. Sign painters will be paid \$50 per sign rather than the mileage, time, and supply arrangement previously in place.

A program is being developed on Greystone's history for the Philanthropic Education Scholarship foundation on August 10. This program was booked last spring before the staff was reduced.

Kiersten is working on the data entry portion of the veteran's burial project. Her full report is attached.

Subcommittee reports

Archives: Larry Fast. Covered in office report.

Grants/Re-grants: Dave Bogert. Covered in office report.

Long Range Planning: No updates to report. The final draft is expected to be submitted by the LRP committee soon.

Marker Program: Kathy Fisher. The text for the Nicholas Vreeland Out kitchen marker was provided to Ms. Shultz, who ordered the marker. The marker script had been written by David Mitros prior to his retirement and had been reviewed by Publications back then. The Marker subcommittee retained a paper trail.

There is a concern about the marker at John Dods Tavern in Lincoln Park, that the business owner's sign may obscure the MCHC marker. It doesn't quite obscure but it is close. Changes will be made to the marker policy and the marker may be moved.

The Marker/GIS project is moving along. Dan Beards has volunteered to take photos for the project. The Park Commission will take photos of markers located at their sites and forward them to us as well.

Personnel: Henry Kafel. The Personnel Committee performed the six-month review for Peg Shultz in June, 2010. Ms. Shultz received a satisfactory rating in all required areas as per the guidelines of the MC Dept. of Personnel. This review is not an in-depth process and the Personnel Committee realizes Ms. Shultz has been doing an exceptional job for MCHC.

Publications: Peg Shultz. The Publications committee reviewed the "10 Most Endangered" press release prior to its distribution.

Public Programs/Exhibits: Kiersten and Peg are in the early research and development phases for an exhibit featuring school houses in Morris County. The Morristown Fall Festival will be held on Sunday, October 3 from 12 – 5 pm.

Communications: *Daily Record* article announcing the *Heritage Review* is available online. Several newsletters were received from organizations from in and out of county. Thank you letter from KSK.

Old business: None.

New business: Henry Kafel. Mr. Kafel reported he has several civil war veteran grave markers believed to have been removed for construction purposes. Peg Shultz will assist in locating the grave sites so the markers can be returned.

Adjournment: 11:04 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Peg Shultz, Archivist

The next Commission meeting will be held on **Tuesday, September 14, at 9:30 a.m.** at the Morris County Cultural Center. Please contact Peg Shultz if you are unable to attend.