

**Morris County Heritage Commission Minutes  
Meeting of July 12, 2011**

**Present:** Commissioners Henry Kafel, Virginia Vogt, Epsey Farrell, Kathy Fisher, Daniel Beards, Freeholder Margaret Nordstrom, Archivist Peg Shultz

**Absent:** Commissioners Larry Fast, Tracy Kinsel, Dave Bogert, James Woodruff

**Call to order:** The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Kafel at the County Cultural Center at 9:38 a.m. The Open Meeting statement was read.

**Minutes:** June minutes were read and approved.

**Financial report:** Our operating budget as of July 1 shows a balance of approximately \$15,611 of a total of \$20,075, about 78 percent, yet to be spent. Several major projects will occur in the fall, and two markers are scheduled.

**Freeholder report:** No formal report.

**Chairman's Report:**

- Chairman Fast reports that 29 of 34 applicants for Morris County Historic Preservation Trust funds were recommended to the freeholders to receive more than \$2.5 million in county grants. Complete information can be found at [www.morrispreservation.org](http://www.morrispreservation.org).
- Chairman Fast monitored Commission activity surrounding the Commission's re-grant to the Passaic River Coalition. (Details under grant committee report.) Mr. Fast is involved in another grant difficulty between the Morris County Preservation Trust Fund and the PRC and wished to take a back seat role in the Commission matter so as not to be seen as "piling on."
- Our new internet domain site, [www.morrisheritage.net](http://www.morrisheritage.net) is now active.
- Chairman Fast is in favor of accepting the marker nomination of the miners' church in Hibernia, especially since the site has received Morris County Trust preservation funds.

**Archivist/acting administrator report:** Archivist/Acting Administrator Shultz spent most of her time on various subcommittee matters, including the final reports on re-grants and preliminary research for the next newsletter. Other matters:

- Donna Martino, summer intern from Rutgers, completed her service with the Commission, and Ms. Shultz has prepared an evaluation report.
- The Trust for Historic Preservation under Marion Harris is continuing the Ten Most Endangered Historic Site program without the Commission's co-sponsorship.
- Ms. Shultz has been asked to assist in identifying historic photographs of Greystone.

**Committee reports**

**Archives: David Bogert, Chair**

Ms. Shultz reported that she and Chairman Bogert will arrange for shelving installation in August. She also reported a security issue involving the "cage," which holds our most valuable records, being found unlocked. County Administrator Bonanni will be contacted concerning the matter.

**Grants/Re-grants: Dave Bogert, Chair**

Commissioner Vogt summarized the many issues concerning the Passaic River Coalition's difficulties in fulfilling its Heritage Commission re-grant. Problems range from requesting lengthy extensions, to being unable to complete its interim report, to the accuracy and suitability of program content. It has been necessary to work constantly with Director of Development Susan Nanney to get these programs on track and moving toward completion. To date, Ms. Shultz and Commissioners Vogt and Bogert have collectively attended nine meetings to keep the re-grant on schedule and monitor the grant programs. At this date, one of the four speakers' programs remains (scheduled for July 27). The print project appears to be on schedule for printing, although some questions of proper attribution remain.

Ms. Shultz is now working on the final re-grant report to the New Jersey Historical Society Commission with the publications committee providing editing.

***Exhibits/Programs: Virginia Vogt, Chair***

Ms. Shultz continues work on an online exhibit of area church architecture and history. A grant writing program will be announced, to occur in mid-September.

***Long-Range Plan: Virginia Vogt, Chair***

The long range plan is in effect.

***Personnel: Henry Kafel, Chair***

Commissioner Kafel will work with Chairman Fast and Archivist/Acting Administrator Shultz to explore the possibility of adding a more descriptive operating title to Ms. Shultz's official civil service title.

***Publications: Virginia Vogt and Esey Farrell, Co-chairs***

Ms. Shultz has begun the process for the Commission's fall newsletter. Commissioners Vogt and Farrell will work on the updated MCHC Style Manual after the close of the meeting. The goal is to resolve writing issues in order to minimize the number of style errors/inconsistencies in draft copy submitted to the publications committee, thereby simplifying the editing process. Commissioner Vogt will add any additional material as soon as possible so the manual is available for the beginning of the newsletter cycle.

***Marker program: Kathy Fisher, Chair***

Commissioner Fisher will do an initial draft for a new marker to stand in front of the historic miners' church in Rockaway. The church was built by the mining company and others and was part of a typical New Jersey nineteenth-century iron mining community. It is also likely that the Museum of Early Trades and Crafts will make a marker application this year.

***Communications: Secretary Vogt***

The Commission received several Section 106 notifications and the latest copy of *Preservation* magazine.

***Old Business:***

Freeholder Margaret Nordstrom announced that she had brought up the matter of installing the Society of Colonial Wars bronze plaque honoring Lewis Morris in the vicinity of the Morris County Courthouse. The freeholders suggested placing the plaque in the new park that will be created on the site of the Washington Building in Morristown when it is completed. The plaque and its installation (the exact placement will be decided later) will be done at no cost to the county.

***New Business:*** None

***Adjournment:*** 11:02 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Virginia Vogt, Secretary

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