

**Morris County Heritage Commission Minutes
Meeting of July 10, 2012**

Present: Commissioners Larry Fast, Virginia Vogt, Miriam Morris, Dan Beards; Intern Caitlin Black

Absent: Commissioners Tracey Kinsel, James Woodruff, Henry Kafel, Esey Farrell, Archivist/Acting Director Peg Shultz

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Fast at the County Cultural Center at 9:38 a.m. The Open Meeting Statement was read.

Minutes: June minutes were read and approved, with Commissioners Beards and Morris abstaining.

Financial report: Minimal expenditures during the month leave us with a balance of \$25,949 – seven percent has been spent to date. (Ten thousand dollars is earmarked as match funds for a grant to create preservation planning documents for the county courthouse.)

Freeholder report: None.

Chairman's report:

- Chairman Fast reported that his administrative time was dominated by Archivist Shultz's family leave issues: he initiated her leave with Human Resources, first for her father and then her mother. He completed necessary paperwork several times, and he had to resolve subsequent payroll and Kronos matters. He converted faxes from Ms. Shultz in Pennsylvania to pdfs and then emailed them to the appropriate Morris County departments on her behalf. Ms. Shultz's initial leave period is three months.
- He collated registrations for the June 27 public program.
- He thanked interns Hefferan and Black for their help at the event.
- He reported that the Morris County Cultural Resource Inventory web application, part of the Morris GIS system, is now online.
- Chairman Fast is contributing to a white paper being produced by the Speedwell-Edison tourism working group.

Archivist/acting director's report: No report. Archivist/Acting Administrator Shultz is on family leave.

Office Report: No report.

Committee reports:

Archives: James Woodruff, Chair: No report.

Grants/Re-grants: Virginia Vogt, Chair

Chairman Fast has applied for an extension on the final grant report.

Exhibits/Programs: Jim Woodruff, Chair

June's MCHC public program on the writing of history books saw attendance of 25-30 persons. Chairman Fast thanked those who helped.

Long-Range Plan: Virginia Vogt, Chair

Year Two of long-range plan is in effect.

Markers: Dan Beards, Chair

Intern Amanda Hefferan is doing final research for the Bethel AME church marker. The copy will go back for review by the church via committee chair Beards. Commissioners were asked for lists of markers that need repainting.

Personnel: Henry Kafel

Ms. Shultz's six-month review has been signed and submitted.

Publications: Virginia Vogt and Epsey Farrell, Co-chairs

Co-chairman Vogt reported on fall newsletter progress.

- The publication date for the next newsletter was affirmed: September 3.
- Articles are assigned to Ms. Shultz (Quips and Quotes; re-grant article, calendar), Chairman Fast (Telstar anniversary), summer intern Caitlin Black (one-room schoolhouses), Bonnie-Lynn Nadzeika (her upcoming book), Dan Beards (Commissioners' Corner on photographing historical sites). Commissioner Morris will contribute an article on the importance of grants.
- Chairman Fast is developing an inhouse design process. He will be responsible for newsletter design on an ongoing basis.

Communications: Secretary Vogt

Various newsletters and announcements were received and noted.

Old Business: The Harding cell tower permit application has been withdrawn.

New Business:

The Fall Festival in Morristown is scheduled for September 30. The Commission can have a free booth in the county government block or share the cost of a tent with other history groups. Commissioner Vogt recommended paying for the more appropriate location.

Commissioner Beards expressed interest in forming a new MCHC standing committee on education, with the goal to reach out to schools to interest them in historical Morris County issues.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Virginia Vogt, Secretary

The next Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 11, at 9:30 a.m.
Please inform Chairman Fast if you are unable to attend.