

**Morris County Heritage Commission Minutes
Meeting of September 11, 2012**

Present: Commissioners Larry Fast, Henry Kafel, Dan Beards, Miriam Morris, James Woodruff, Archivist/Acting Director Peg Shultz.

Absent: Commissioners Virginia Vogt, Tracy Kinsel, and Epsy Farrell.

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Fast at the County Cultural Center at 9:33 a.m. The Open Meeting Statement was read.

Minutes: The July minutes were read and approved, with Commissioners Kafel and Woodruff abstaining.

Financial report: The financial report was presented by Ms. Shultz. Year to date expenditures are on track. However, \$10,000 of this amount is earmarked as match funds for a grant to create preservation planning documents for the county courthouse. This project has been deferred at the request of the Freeholders until 2013, when it will become a cooperative undertaking of the County Engineering Department, Planning and Development, Parks Department, and the Heritage Commission. A preservation consultant would be selected by the group. Park Commission Historic Sites Director, Mark Texel accepted and began a new position outside the county. Ms. Shultz will begin working on the 2013 budget proposal which is due to the county treasurer's office on October 5.

Freeholder report: None.

Chairman's report: Chairman Fast reported that he worked on the newsletter layout and design; the Bethel AME Church marker; and coordinated the fall festival exhibit space with the tourism bureau. He also continued to work on the civil war book project with Diane Publishing; and has continued to work on the Speedwell-Edison initiative. He indicated the focus will be redirected in this venture due to the departure of Mark Texel and the retirement of the site director at Menlo Park.

Archivist/acting director's report: Ms. Shultz is preparing the final report for the re-grant program. It will be submitted to the county treasurer's office for approval and sent to the NJHC via the SAGE system.

Interns Hefferan and Black have completed their internships. Ms Shultz reported twenty markers were cleaned and painted by Ruth Pace over the summer. Ms. Shultz coordinated the project while away on family leave. A list of markers was provided in her report.

The dedication of the Lewis Morris plaque at the pocket park will take place on October 12. Ms. Shultz will forward the time and other details as they are made available to the commission.

The proof for the AME Church marker was presented to the commission for comment/approval.

Committee reports:

Archives: James Woodruff, Chair

No updates to report

Grants/Re-grants: Virginia Vogt, Chair

In Mrs. Vogt's absence, Ms. Shultz indicated that the final report for the 2012 grant is being prepared. Ms. Shultz has started to work on the 2013 grant program.

Exhibits/Programs: Jim Woodruff, Chair

Chairman Woodruff reports plans for the October program on schoolhouses is underway. Former commissioner Mary Prendergast and Becky Hoskins of the Park Commission will be the presenters. Mrs. Prendergast will speak on the role of the one room school house and public education in the nineteenth century and Ms. Hoskins presentation will focus on the Washington Valley Schoolhouse.

Long-Range Plan: Virginia Vogt, Chair

No report.

Markers: Dan Beards, Chair

The proof of the AME Church marker was presented for comment. Vice Chairman Kafel suggested installing the pole ahead of time to expedite mounting of the plaque. Work will begin on drafting the text for the Morris Canal stone arch in Rockaway Borough

Personnel: Henry Kafel

No report.

Publications: Virginia Vogt and Epsey Farrell, Co-chairs

Chairman Fast reported on the progress of the newsletter publication in his report.

Communications: Ms. Shultz

Several newsletters, announcements, and section 106 reviews were received and noted. The Commission will follow up regarding the Ledgewood, Canal Street Bridge.

Old Business: No old business was reported

New Business: None

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:19 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Peg Shultz, Archivist/Acting Director

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