

# Morris County Heritage Commission

## Meeting Minutes

### January 8, 2019

**Present:** Epsey Farrell, Larry Fast, Joyce Kanigel, Marty Kane, Joe Macasek, Kathy Murphy and Amery Vasso; Acting Director Peg Shultz and Archives Technician Amanda Hefferan.

**Absent/Excused:** John Dunado (leave of absence) and John Manna

**Call to Order:** Acting Director Peg Shultz called the meeting to order at the Morris County Library at 9:33 a.m. She read the Open Public Meeting Statement.

**Election of Officers:** Kathy Murphy was re-elected Chair, and Larry Fast was re-elected Vice Chair. Commissioner Manna was elected Secretary and Commissioner Farrell was elected Treasurer. It was noted that the Freeholders had appointed Amery Vasso to fill outgoing Commissioner Kathy Fisher's seat.

**Committee Assignments:** Assignments from 2018 were reviewed and committee assignments for 2019 were discussed and designated.

**Meeting Dates:** The calendar for 2019 MCHC meetings was reviewed. Seeing no conflict, Chair Kathy Murphy made a motion to accept the meeting schedule; all Commissioners voted in favor.

**Minutes:** A motion was made to accept the minutes for December 11, 2018. All voted in favor.

**Freeholder Report:** No report was presented.

#### **Financial Report:**

- Expenditures are as expected. Receipts for this budget year must be finished soon for year-end totals.
- Ms. Shultz reported that the Commission is working with a temporary budget until the county budget is approved. Approval is expected to take place by mid-April.

#### **Chair Report:**

- Chair Murphy thanked all the Commissioners for all of their hard work in 2018.

#### **Office Report:**

- Acting Director/Archivist Peg Shultz reported that time was spent on developing exhibition ideas for 2019.
- Sixteen re-grant applications were received for 2019. Twelve were approved for funding.
- Staff is preparing the 2018 final re-grant report for the NJHC
- Ms. Shultz reported Ms. Hefferan attended several training workshops.
- She reported on the status of the historic site marker program
- She curated and coordinated the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Armistice at the County Library in November.
- The fall newsletter was completed.
- Temporary staff is worked on rehousing and organizing the historic site marker files.

**Archives Report:** Ms. Hefferan continues the cleaning and rehousing projects on several parts of the collection. She also assisted several researchers by phone, in person, and by email.

#### **Subcommittee Reports:**

**Archives:** No further discussion.

**Grants:** All final reports for the 2018 re-grant round were received. The re-grant review meeting was held at the Commission offices on December 20, 2018.

**Long-Range Plan:** Commissioner Farrell raised the point that the committee will need to meet in January 2019 to develop a new three-year plan for the years 2019-2021. A January 25 meeting date was confirmed.

**Marker Program:** The text for the Dublin marker was finalized and is in production. The Commission members discussed replacing the county entrance markers for the MCHC's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Several are missing and the marker text should be updated.

**Publications:** The next newsletter is being edited. That process should be completed by the end of the month.

**Public Programs:** The MCHC will co-sponsor the New Jersey Canal Society's annual symposium on April 27 at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum. Public programs for 2019 were discussed. Ms. Shultz will co-sponsor programs and exhibits with other organizations in 2019. This will allow her to focus on the MCHC's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2020, which will feature a series of programs and exhibits throughout the year.

**Communications:** Several newsletters and one Section 106 were received.

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

The next Commission meeting will be held in the Commission's conference room at the Morris County Library on Tuesday, **February 14, 2019, at 9:30 a.m.** Please inform the staff if you are unable to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Peg Shultz  
Archivist/Acting Director  
(substituting as Secretary)