

Morris County Heritage Commission

Meeting Minutes

March 10, 2020

Present: Chair Kathy Murphy, Vice Chair Larry Fast, Treasurer Esey Farrell, Marty Kane, Joe Macasek, TC McCourt, Secretary Carol Barkin; Director Peg Shultz, History Program Development Specialist Nick Palatucci, and Archives Technician Amanda Hefferan

Absent/Excused: John Dunado, Amery Vasso

Call to Order: Chair Kathy Murphy called the meeting to order at the Morris County Library at 9:35 a.m. and read the Open Public Meeting Statement.

Minutes: A motion was made and passed to accept the minutes from the February 11, 2020, meeting.

Financial Report: The Commission is operating with a temporary budget until the county budget is approved by the Freeholders in March.

Chair's Report:

- Chair Murphy welcomed new Commission member TC McCourt of Dover.
- Ms. Murphy commented on the well-received presentation by Jude Pfister of Morristown National Historical Park for the HC's first 50th -anniversary program.

Office Report:

- Director Peg Shultz welcomed TC McCourt to the Commission on behalf of the staff.
- Ms. Shultz reported that the Melville Mill marker has been located and returned to the Heritage Commission office.
- Ms. Shultz is working on a Women's Suffrage program which would be co-sponsored by the Morris County Library. A date and time will be set in the near future.

Archives Technician Report: Amanda Hefferan is continuing to work on cleaning and organizing the collection. Ms. Hefferan and Mr. Palatucci mounted a 50th -anniversary exhibit in the county library lobby cases and our exhibit cases in the rear of the library and on the second floor of the county administration building.

History Program Development Specialist Report: Nick Palatucci is continuing to work on location sites and has finalized text for the Morris County entrance replacement markers. Scheduling and speakers have been finalized for the Heritage Commission 50th -anniversary programs to be held at the Morris County Library.

Subcommittee Reports:

Grants/Re-Grants: Awards for the 2020 re-grant program will be announced following Freeholder budget approval. Contracts will be sent out shortly following approval.

Long-Range Planning: Ms. Shultz is in the process of reviewing and updating the Long-Range Plan.

Marker Program: Two historic site marker applications were received.

- The marker application for Foote's Pond in Morristown was reviewed. Marker committee members felt the site would be better served with an interpretive panel.
- A marker application for Hurd Park in Dover was received. Members of the marker committee and staff will visit the location before making a final decision.

Public Programs: Dr. Jude Pfister of Morristown National Historical Park delivered a lecture at the Morris County Library on February 25 as a part of the MCHC 50th -anniversary celebration. The presentation included topics such as the founding of MNHP, the bicentennial, and the significance of celebrating anniversaries. The Heritage Commission will be co-sponsoring the Canal Society Local History Symposium. The event will be held at the Morris County Library on Saturday, April 25, from 9 a.m. (set up) to 5 p.m. Grant-writing workshops will be held on August 19 at the Morris County Library. The morning session will focus on basic grant-writing skills and the afternoon session will focus on the 2021 re-grant program.

Publications: The winter 2020 newsletter is at the print shop. The e-copy has been posted to the MCHC website. Staff will begin to pull articles from previous newsletter editions for the summer 2020 online special edition.

Communication: Several newsletters and event notifications were received.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:49 a.m.

The next Commission meeting will be held in the Commission's conference room at the Morris County Library on Tuesday, **April 14, 2020, at 9:30 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Nick Palatucci
History Program Development Specialist