

Holland Township Historic Preservation Commission Meeting

Monday, March 2, 2015
Holland Twp. Municipal Building, 7 PM

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM

Present: Joseph Becker, Larry LaFevre, Beverly Kirby-McDonough, Kathy Sciarello, Shirley Wydner

Excused: Dan Bush, Peter Craig, Carl Molter

Adequate notice of this meeting was given pursuant to the Open Public Meeting Act Law by the Township Clerk.

Minutes of the January 2015 meeting were approved.

2015 Reorganization (Postponed from January 5th)

Discussion postponed.

Field Trip – Hughesville Dam

Larry LaFevre said that the Hughesville dam tour will be scheduled for Saturday, March 14th, at 10:30AM.

1860 Farm Map

Larry stated that no more small maps available for sale, and proposed that more maps should be printed. Maps could be printed from the restored CD by Silicone Fine Art Prints of Philadelphia. The last order of maps consisted of 5 small at \$80 each, and 8 medium at \$167 each. However, the prices may have increased. Funding is not available in the 2015 budget, but \$370 of receipts may be used for reprints.

Kathy Sciarello announced that she has another book near completion, covering the 5-year period of 1886 through 1890. She said that the book is currently 260 pages, but can be streamlined to 200 pages to save the cost of printing. Kathy said that once pictures are added and the book is submitted to LuLu (an Internet publisher), then the cost of printing can be determined. Kathy agreed to check with Cathy Miller and Peter Rees to ask how much money is available in the book fund for printing. Larry stated that there was a balance of \$227 at the end of 2014.

2015 Draft Budget

Larry distributed a copy of the proposed budget for 2015, dated February 12, 2015. The budget will be the same as last year at \$7,000.

Larry stated that the Holland Township Historic Preservation Commission applied to the New Jersey Historic Commission (NJHC) for a \$3,000 grant to be used for dendrochronology of four

barns. There is a match of \$3,400 that appears in the 2015 proposed budget. If the NJHC grant is not received, then only one or two barns samples will be analyzed this year.

Larry spoke of the proposed update of the Bunn Valley historic district nomination. He mentioned that several structures at Hoffman Farms are at risk of demolition including two houses, three barns, a smokehouse and a summer kitchen. The lime kilns will be preserved, but will have no means of access for inspection or maintenance.

Application Checklist per Board of Adjustment / Planning Board Referral to HPC

Larry said he received some input from Dan Bush on the phone. Apparently, the matter is in the initial discussion stages for this year. A change to the budget will be required fund a study to determine which historic structures would be eligible.

Larry circulated “The Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings” (now obsolete). He said that certain standards would need to be followed if an individual wanted to modify or build near or within a historic district. A historic preservation ordinance must be in place as part of a zoning ordinance. Larry agreed to check for updated copies of the brochure.

Other Business

Penn East Pipeline Meeting – Larry said that he and Kathy attended a FERC scoping meeting on February 26th at the Grand Colonial restaurant in Union Township. The meeting was well-attended with elected officials and representation from all municipalities. Our Mayor made a statement, and Carla Cielo and Erich Zeh spoke on behalf of Holland Township.

Carla submitted a list of historic sites impacted by the proposed PennEast pipeline that included the following:

- Partial documentation for the Pursley's Ferry district nomination (includes the Revolutionary War significant Purcell/Brinks Ferry house)
- Bill Moore farmstead
- Wilson/Smith farmstead
- Dodd farmstead
- Jennis farmstead
- R. LaFevre farmstead
- Bellis farmstead
- Shire farmstead
- Zeller farmstead
- 'Tilstra' farmstead
- Farmhouse Inn
- Kinney farmstead
- Henry Boss farmstead
- Hoffa stone house
- Stamets / Bobolink farmstead
- Mark and Grace Hoffa

(Documentation was submitted for all of sites above except Zeller, Farmhouse Inn and Hoffa.)

Carla also submitted a proposed alternate route for the pipeline that avoids most of these sites that are in the proposed barker tract historic district.

Show & Tell

How Holland Township Got Its Name – Kathy discussed how Holland Township may have been named. She distributed a map of the Barker Tract, including names of the tenants who lived on each lot during the time of the Revolutionary War. Some of the early settlers were Dutch (such as “Coevert”) and could have named Holland Township.

Historic Pictures and Frames – Kathy provided high quality samples of photographs in 13” x 19” and 11” x 14” format that she made on a Canon printer. She showed frames and matting that is available at Walmart. This is an economical and quality alternative to professional printing and framing. Prints can be displayed within the Municipal Building.

Hunterdon County Democrat – Joe Becker showed an article in the Hunterdon County Democrat, and discussed Bobolink Farm (the old Stamets Farm) and Villa Milagro Winery.

Next Meeting: Monday, April 6th, at 7:00PM

Meeting Adjourned: 8:00PM