

Holland Township Historic Preservation Commission Meeting

Friday, January 6, 2017
Holland Twp. Municipal Building, 7 PM

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM

Present: Joseph Becker, Dan Bush, Larry LaFevre, Beverly Kirby-McDonough, Carl Molter, Kathy Sciarello, Shirley Wydner

Excused: Peter Craig

Adequate notice of this meeting was given pursuant to the Open Public Meeting Act by the Township Clerk on December 8, 2016.

2017 Reorganization

Commission members Carl Molter, Beverly Kirby-McDonough, Kathy Sciarello and Shirley Wydner were sworn in for an additional term.

Minutes of the December 2016 meeting were approved.

Bunn Valley District Update

No updates from the County. The next meeting with the County is scheduled this month.

Barn Dendro Project

Larry LaFevre reported that two additional barns have been dated. They are the Hammerstone barn - 1803/1804, and the Phillips barn - 1823/1824. The Carlson barn was not dated because some timbers are made of chestnut (which is not included in the database). Other timbers in the Carlson barn did not have enough rings.

Riegel Ridge Stage Update

Dan Bush said that he met with Michael Margulies. Architectural drawings are complete, and were submitted to the State. Dan described some of the work planned. The stage floor will be re-done in a "fancy finish". A vendor has been found to reproduce the curtains. An 18-inch arch will be extended into the gymnasium, with a refabricated buffer. Understorage will be added. Both entryways will be refurbished, ceiling will be insulated and stage lighting in front will be reproduced. The screen/projection room will have lead paint removed and a new window installed.

Dan stated that once the work is started, it is expected to be finished within a 2 month period. Riegel Ridge operations will not be closed. With prompt approval from the State, the project could be completed as early as this Spring.

Dan mentioned applying for some additional grants in the future. These would include a stabilization grant to cover windows - installing storm windows on the interior of existing windows on the second and third floors. (Existing windows need to be refurbished.) A County grant will be sought to remove all lead paint on the second and third floors. It will include repainting, new carpeting, new kitchen and new bath. A grant for the installation of an elevator will also be considered.

Dan also spoke about plans for the Lodge at Bethany Ridge. There has been discussion about establishing it as a public / private cooperative instead of selling it. The property has already been subdivided, and consists of approximately 5 acres.

2017 Budget

Larry reported that the total 2017 Budget is the same as 2016. A new line was added. Item 3 for \$500 to cover the publishing historic documentation and research. This new line item will be made up within the total 2017 Budget.

Correspondence

- Letter from Hunterdon County Cultural Heritage Commission (C. Fellows) – Regarding participation in Hunterdon County Community Day on June 3, 2017. This Commission has decided not to participate in the event.

Other Business

- Pipeline Update – Dan said that in terms of non-disclosure, Holland Township is named as a consulting party authorized to answer questions and receive all documentation regarding the proposed pipeline.
- Fine / Cyphers Farm – Solar Field Update – Larry discussed the demolition of structures on the Fine / Cyphers farm and salvage of materials, such as timber. Dan asked Larry to follow up with Maria Elena Kozak to request confirmation that reuse and recycling of materials will be permitted, and to ask what the procedure is for adding this topic to the next public hearing. Larry mentioned that Carla Cielo suggested that someone should be on site to monitor the demolition for the purpose of discovering artifacts. A public hearing is scheduled for Monday, January 9th.
- Oral Histories – R. Miller – To be scheduled.
- Riegel Ridge Community Center “Behind the Scenes” Tour - To be scheduled.

Show & Tell

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

Meeting Adjourned: 8:00PM