

Holland Township Historic Preservation Commission Meeting

Monday, March 6, 2017
Holland Twp. Municipal Building, 7 PM

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:02 PM

Present: Joseph Becker, Peter Craig, Larry LaFevre, Beverly Kirby-McDonough, Kathy Sciarrello
Excused: Dan Bush, Carl Molter, Shirley Wydner

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

Minutes of the February 2017 meeting were approved.

Bunn Valley District Update

Larry LaFevre circulated final versions of two digital maps of the Bunn Valley Historic District prepared by Melanie Mason of the County Agricultural Development Board. One map included photographs and numbers. Another map showed contributing and non-contributing resources.

Fine/Cyphers Farm Solar Field Update

Larry reported that he attended a walkthrough of the Fine/Cyphers farm on February 21st. In attendance was Michael Margulies, Dan Bush, Holland Township Planning Board Secretary and two people from IPP. Mr. Margulies is in contact with the developer to explore ways to save the house and barn.

PennEast Pipeline Update

Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), Larry stated that he submitted a request to view a report that the New Jersey State Historic Preservation Commission (NJSHPO) sent to FERC. The report includes information about Holland Township. A letter of denial was received from NJSHPO on the basis that the report contains information protected under FOIA Exemption #3.

Delaware River Trade Historic Partnership

Larry read the mission statement of the partnership: “Bringing the forgotten stories of early settlement and river trade along the middle Delaware to new and diverse audiences through innovative ways”. Holland Township Historic Preservation Commission is currently not a member. Larry plans to attend the next meeting on March 25th, and he will indicate that Holland Township has an interest in joining the partnership.

Other Business

- Publication Update – Kathy Sciarrello provided an update on the progress of her latest book. The book is being printed now.
- Sanderson/Sinclair Farm (at corner of Amsterdam and Church Roads) – Larry reported that the field work is finished. Reports are complete. Some editing is still needed.

- Budget Update – Larry said there is no update. The first reading of the budget is scheduled for the second meeting in March.
- Riegel Ridge Stage Update – Larry reported good progress. The project will go out to bid in April. Michael Margulies is hired as the project manager, and will prepare applications for two grants; that is, replacement of gymnasium floor and upgrade of all windows in the building. Larry stated that he will assist in preparing letters of support for each grant.
- Oral Histories – R. Miller – To be scheduled.
- Sign or Plaque for Robbins/Clark House Site – Larry said that the power company will be approached with a request to fund the sign. There was also some discussion regarding relocation and preservation of the four-square schoolhouse.
- Riegel Ridge Community Center “Behind the Scenes” Tour – Scheduled for Saturday, March 11th, at 10:00AM.
- Tour of Hoffman Farms – Larry stated that he gave a tour of Hoffman Farms on Sunday, March 5th. Larry expressed concern about the cleaning and maintenance of the triple lime kilns after the property closes in March. Arrangements will need to be the new owners to clear the lime kilns at least once per year.

Show & Tell

- National WWII Museum – Larry showed a letter from the National WWII Museum, located in New Orleans. It is the #1 New Orleans attraction. The letter requested donations to support expansion.
- Snyder Paleoindian Complex – Larry spoke about this archeological complex locate in Phillipsburg.
- Riegel Ridge Sweatshirt – Kathy showed a white sweatshirt with a drawing of the Riegel Ridge Community Center on the front that was once sold as a fundraiser.

Next Meeting: Monday, April 3rd, at 7:00PM

Meeting Adjourned: 8:00PM