

Holland Township Historic Preservation Commission Meeting

Monday, June 5, 2017
Holland Twp. Municipal Building, 7 PM

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:00 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 by the Township Clerk on December 8, 2016.

Minutes of the May 2017 meeting were approved.

Bunn Valley District Update

Larry LaFevre said that he spoke with Dennis Bertland. Mr. Bertland is making final edits and will submit the application to the State in a couple of weeks.

Fine / Cyphers Solar Field

Larry stated that he received a status from Carl Molter. A resolution is being prepared to approve, with conditions, the preservation of the farmstead. Timing of the resolution unknown.

Slave Cemetery – Mount Pleasant

Beverly Kirby-McDonough reported that she spoke with Stacey Rister in mid-May. Ms. Rister was searching for slave cemetery records and photographs from the Alexandria Township Historical Society. Their conversation also included the 501c3 status, and concerns about the Prevost House and insurance.

Larry mentioned that he subsequently met with Mary Anne Adams and Stacey Rister at the Prevost House. However, the locks were changed. Larry was unable to reach Howard Thomas by phone, but sent him an email dated May 23rd to request access. Mary Anne Adams is interested in accessing documentation by Bill Weston, who did a lot of research in western Hunterdon County.

Beverly agreed to reach out to Carol Hoffman regarding the 501c3 status of the Alexandria Township Historical Society.

Holland Township Community Day

Community Day is scheduled for Saturday, September 9th. The Holland Township Historic Preservation Commission plans to participate. Beverly agreed to contact Jessica Neglia to reserve a space.

Other Business

- Publication Update – Kathy Sciarello shared a “thank you” letter for a book donation from the Hunterdon County Historical Society signed by Pamela Robinson, Librarian.

- Aerial Photography – Larry mentioned that a while ago, a gentleman was selling old, aerial photographs of farmsteads in Holland Township from the 1950's and 1960's. He suggested that the Holland Township Historical Preservation Commission may be interested in purchasing some photographs, especially if the farms no longer exist. Larry agreed to provide a contact number. Beverly agreed to contact the company.
- Riegel Ridge Stage and Project – no update.
- PennEast Pipeline – no update.
- Sign/Plaque for Robbins-Clark House Site – no update.
- Four-Square Schoolhouse – no update.

Show & Tell

- Holland Township History Page – Larry reported a lot of activity on the Holland Township History Page on Facebook. There was a discussion about a photograph of a property owned by the Sinclair family, also an interesting photograph of Mount Joy.
- George Taylor House (www.georgetaylorhouse.com) – Larry described his visit to the George Taylor House in Catasauqua, PA. Tours are available the first Sunday of each month. The house features original woodwork, a summer kitchen with an attached building divided as a smokehouse and a root cellar with an adjacent well. Larry suggested that the Commission could visit as a group.
- Becker Deeds – Joseph Becker shared a collection of old deeds and conveyances, including the first Becker, deed dated 1863, from the estate of Jacob Cole to Nichols Becker.

Next Meeting: Monday, August 7th, at 7:00PM

Meeting Adjourned: 8:00PM