

Holland Township Historic Preservation Commission Meeting

Monday, October 3, 2022
Holland Twp. Municipal Building, 7 PM

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:08 PM

Present: Joseph Becker, Lori Bonham, Larry LaFevre, Beverly Kirby-McDonough, Kathy Sciarello
Excused: Dan Bush, Carl Molter, JoAnn Bonham Schaible

Adequate notice of this meeting was given pursuant to the open public meeting act by the Twp. Clerk on December 9, 2021.

Minutes of the August 2022 meeting were approved.

Riegel Ridge Inventory and Storage

Larry LaFevre said that he and JoAnn Bonham Schaible met with Maria Elena Kozak about ordering archival boxes. Maria selected a vendor, The Library Store, and submitted forms required to set up an account. Once the account is fully established, Maria will order six boxes and a few extra. Blinds for the storage room were also discussed. Larry suggested checking for blinds in third floor offices at Riegel Ridge. Efforts are being made to locate a misplaced laptop projector.

Larry mentioned that a slight change was made to the Holland Township Historic Properties Index to reflect additional documentation. The index and related documentation are filed at the Municipal Building. The index will be posted on the Township website.

Larry showed a sample of seven binders, each representing a separate region of the Township. These binders, stored at Riegel Ridge, include color photographs of historic houses. Some images are not filed or labeled. Larry led a discussion about whether to disassemble the binders and file contents by lot and block number in existing files, or leave the binders intact. A consensus was not reached.

Kathy Sciarello said she heard that people are asking when artifacts will be added back to the showcases in the lobby at Riegel Ridge. Lori Bonham expressed concern about locking the showcases. A follow-up discussion is needed to decide what items should be included.

Plaque For Riegel Ridge Stage+

Larry stated that he received a comprehensive narrative from Michael Margulies that included the entire project. He will reach out to Mr. Margulies to verify the funding organizations. Kathy agreed to edit the narrative and add information about the stage curtain. She suggested recognizing the Holland Township Committee on the plaque. Also, Larry found an electronic write-up for a plaque to memorialize the restoration of the stone terrace. However, it is uncertain if the plaque was ever installed.

Hunterdon County 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution

Joe Becker, Beverly Kirby-McDonough and JoAnn Bonham Schaible attended the Hunterdon 250th Kickoff Meeting on August 20th at the Hunterdon County Library in Flemington. The meeting, led by Marcia Karrow, was very well attended. Holland Township plans to partner with the Pohatcong Historical Society in this event. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for January of 2023.

Hunterdon County 300th

Joe supported the Hunterdon County 300th at the Hunterdon County 4H & Agricultural Fair. He worked four days between August 24th through 28th in the Community Tent. Joe mentioned that 2022 events are still in progress and filling up quickly. See website at <http://www.hunterdon300th.org/>.

Bunn Valley District

Larry stated that he received feedback on the Bunn Valley nomination from Andrea Tingey of the NJ State Historic Preservation Office. Clarification and additional work are needed. Larry will follow up with Dennis Bertland to ask for an estimate and sources of grants. Subsequent to receipt of the feedback, the State performed a site visit to Bunn Valley.

Other Business

Documentation of House - J. R. Anderson – Larry said that this house, adjacent to the Spring Mills mill ruins, is documented. Photographs of people who resided there in the ‘50’s and 60’s (such as Abrams and Sprague) are being sought by JoAnn in response to a query from Rachel Aversa.

Hamilton NJ Tour – This tour on Saturday, October 8th, at 9:00AM will feature 1) 1896 V. Henry Rothchild & Co. factory tour let by Carla Cielo and 2) Grounds for Sculpture.

Durham (PA) Historical Society Presentation – Carla Cielo is scheduled to speak about dendrochronology and the dating of barns at the Durham Mill on Sunday, October 30th, at 2:00PM.

NJ Historic Trust Survey of Partner Agencies – Larry encouraged all present to examine the survey. We may be eligible to apply for grants.

Oliver Property – Larry announced the closing of the Oliver property. Kathy gave a review of what was discussed at the recent Township Committee meeting.

Holland Happenings Fall Newsletter – Larry asked Beverly to post the upcoming article on WPA artists to the HTHPC “news” section of the Township website.

Show and Tell

- Local Artifacts from Online Auction – Estate of Rob Wolf, including Milford/Frenchtown yearbooks, memorabilia, Riegel paper mill items, “Spot Lite” Newsletters, etc. – Kathy
- Old Milk Bottle – J. E. Bellis, Finesville – Kathy
- 1901 Map” – Larry showed a small road, off Ellis, that doesn’t appear on any other Township map.
- Hunterdon County Cultural Heritage Commission – Going digital with historic markers – Larry
- NJ Farmland Preservation News Flyer – Larry
- Lower Frenchtown Cemetery Tour by Rick Epstein, Saturday, October 15th – Larry
- Lambertville House Tour, Sunday, October 23rd – Larry
- Veteran’s Day Ceremony – Friday, November 11th, 2022 at the Holland Municipal Building – Larry

Next Meeting: Monday, December 5th, 7:00PM

Meeting Adjourned at 8:10 PM