

Holland Township Historic Preservation Commission Meeting

Monday, October 2, 2023
Holland Twp. Municipal Building, 7 PM

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM

Present: Joseph Becker, Dan Bush, Tim Fazekas, Larry LaFevre, Beverly Kirby-McDonough, Stacey Rister, JoAnn Bonham Schaible, Kathy Sciarello

Adequate notice of this meeting was given pursuant to the open public meeting act by the Twp. Clerk on December 8, 2022.

Mayor Dan Bush swore in new “Class B” Commission member, Stacey Rister. Welcome, Stacey!

Minutes of the August 2023 meeting were approved.

Historic Sign for O’sakame Park

Larry LaFevre stated that he and JoAnn Bonham Schaible met with Michael Keady of the Holland Environmental Commission and others. Larry spoke with Michael Keady again today. They agreed that three signs may be appropriate for the park: 1) Clark/Robbins farmstead, 2) power plant and 3) early Lenape inhabitants. Mr. Keady expressed concern about the political correctness of a Lenape interpretive sign.

JoAnn received positive feedback from our Commission members on her proposed text and general format of the signage. (See JoAnn’s email of October 1st.)

Larry reported that Emily Dunn of the Hunterdon Land Trust received two price quotes from Pannier Graphics and Fossil Industries. Pannier Graphics is the chosen vendor.

Dan stated that once IRS Form W-9 is received from the vendor, a purchase order can be issued. The purchase order will serve as the deposit and legal contract. The vendor will be paid in full when the sign is received in good order. (Larry will follow up with CFO Kristi Gano.) Larry and Dan discussed delivery of the sign. The sign should be delivered to the Municipal Building or directly to the Department of Public Works. (Larry will follow up with Melissa Tigar.)

Tim Fazekas questioned the durability and lifespan of the sign. Dan replied that it should last about 15 years. Joe Becker mentioned the potential of vandalism. Kathy Sciarello asked about the significance of the former Boy Scout camp on the old Lippincott farm along the Delaware River.

Riegel Ridge Community Center

Photographs of Riegel Ridge Directors – Kathy reported that the five director photographs are now on display at Riegel Ridge.

Milo Table – Kathy said that this table, currently in storage on the second floor, must be cleared of wood. Larry suggested that the table should be covered to prevent scratching. Dan is resolving this matter in real time.

“Early History” Books – Kathy was notified by Melissa Tigar that the supply of books at the Municipal Building is low. Kathy delivered an additional quantity of six of each volume. The supply should now be adequate up to December. Kathy said that Melissa plans to get a credit application from the publisher. Then, more books can be ordered and billed directly to the municipality. Dan said that a purchase card is almost complete. This will allow new orders to be processed as credit card transactions.

Louis XIV Table – Kathy described how she performed an extensive search for Parke-Bernet auction house records of the Ogden Mills estate sale in New York City to confirm Riegel’s purchase of the Louis XIV table. She was referred to an appraiser and sent pictures of the table. The appraiser responded that the table is definitely not Louis XIV, but probably Empire. Kathy found an online catalog of the Ogden Mills estate auction, but the sale of the table was not listed. Perhaps the table was acquired privately, or a story was contrived over time.

Kathy said she received a quote of about \$900 for a glass tabletop from Glass Castle. However, it is not tempered glass. Dan agreed with Kathy that she should request an updated quote for tempered glass. Dan asked Larry if the Historic Preservation Commission budget could support this purchase.

Display Cases – Tim and Dan expressed interest in creating a meaningful sports display. There are enough artifacts available, but the display needs to be assembled. Kathy suggested that the Riegel Ridge baseball jersey could be placed in the same display case as the quilt.

“Spot-Lite” Newsletters – On 9/23, Joe donated additional Spot-Lite newsletters obtained from K. Harstine to the collection stored at Riegel Ridge. Kathy also donated a couple of newsletters from R. Castagna.

Holland Township 150th Anniversary

The New Township Logo will be featured.

Donors - Dan listed donors for the 150th Anniversary. Northfield Bank and Georgia Pacific, \$5.0K each. Several \$1K sponsors include Dutch Mill Market, Holland Pharmacy, Miller Garage Door, Phillips Farm and Johnson-Walton Funeral Home.

150th Events – Dan dedicated several hours per week on plans for the 150th celebration. Events will be spread throughout the year. Dan outlined a tentative slate of events subject to approval by the 150th Planning Committee to include:

Holland History Tour – Revolving slide shows will be displayed on TV sets in the Riegel Ridge lounge. Dan said he is reaching out to the Riegelsville Library to borrow additional historical material.

Vintage Baseball Game and Fireworks – The baseball game will be followed by fireworks on the same date in May. David Szwec is spearheading plans for the vintage team. Dan will speak with Delaware Valley Regional High School about participation of the varsity baseball team. If the local high school cannot participate, the VFW may be asked.

Baseball Jerseys – Dan expressed difficulty in finding a sponsor for the baseball jerseys. Most sponsors prefer to support an event rather than a fundraiser. Dan asked Tim about a less expensive option. Tim mentioned that custom silk-screen t-shirts can be made for about \$30 each.

Yoga Under the Stars – A series of free outdoor nighttime yoga sessions are being planned at Riegel Ridge. All participants will receive a free t-shirt.

Community Pool Day – Plans include a DJ and inflatables for children.

Library Book Reading – The Holland Library will sponsor a book reading event for children. All children will receive a free copy of the book.

5K River Run

Update of Holland Township Bi-Centennial Book

2024 Community Day – Entertainment will include performance by “The Nerds”, a popular rock and roll cover band. Children’s programs will be hosted inside the Community Center. Food trucks and fireworks. Local boards, commissions and affiliates. Booths will be set up for the day.

Other Business

- **Slave Cemetery in Mt. Pleasant** – Larry described how he and Stacey Rister searched for the slave cemetery multiple times during 2017–2018. Documentation is said to be held by the obsolete Alexandria Historical Society. However, the documentation and site itself cannot be found.

Public Comment - N/A

Show and Tell

- Copies of historical photographs from the collection of Pearl Hammerstone – Larry
- Barker Tract History and Maps – Kathy (will email .pdf to all)
- Delfts Tile, labeled “Volendam Windmill” – Kathy
- “The Great Leg Series” by Riegel, a Profit-Pak paperboard hosiery envelope - Kathy
- Vintage Blob-Top Bottle, Eagle Brewing Co., Newark, branded “Warren Paper Mills, NJ” - Tim
- Book, “Frenchtown Fires, Floods, Fads and Felonies” by R. Epstein 2023 - Larry

Next Meeting: Monday, November 6th, 7:00PM

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 PM