

Holland Township Historic Preservation Commission Meeting

Monday, June 3, 2024
Holland Twp. Municipal Building, 7 PM

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM

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

Adequate notice of this meeting was given pursuant to the open public meeting act by the Twp. Clerk on December 21, 2023.

May 2024 Minutes Were Approved.

Holland Township 150th Anniversary

The Commission discussed the popularity of the vintage baseball games and fireworks held on May 18th. Tim Fazekas shared a link to pictures he took during the event. Dan Bush spoke about the success of the ice cream social held on May 30th at Holland School.

Kathy Sciarrello showed the latest draft of the 150th anniversary book. The draft includes pictures from the recent pickleball clinic and vintage baseball games. Some additional pictures are needed, as well as the Holland Township school budget. Kathy asked if the Commission preferred black or gold lettering on the title page. (The consensus was black lettering.) Tim proposed redesigning the cover at a cost of \$200. Dan stated that the 150th budget cannot support this revision. June 30th is the cutoff date for all changes to the anniversary book.

Dan mentioned that the 150th video, currently shown at Riegel Ridge, should be uploaded to the Holland Library YouTube channel later this year. The Commission wants to encourage people to visit Riegel Ridge.

Kathy expressed concern about the security of Holland Township artifacts (e.g. trophies) stored upstairs at Riegel Ridge. No items should be removed from the room without official permission. The inventory log must be updated. There was a brief discussion about locking the room.

Dan mentioned that he acquired a baseball showing three team captains. The baseball reflects the names of the teams and dates. The baseball is located at Riegel Ridge.

During this meeting, the Commission reviewed all original artwork submitted by Holland students to the 150th Anniversary Postcard Contest. A list of all postcard contest winners selected by the Woman's Club was shared. Kathy will return the artwork to the school after scanning is complete.

Grandstand Renovation and Riegel Ridge Community Center

Larry LaFevre shared a sample letter dated May 21st addressed to Mayor Dan Bush from John G. Zinn of the Flemington Neshanock Baseball Club. The letter thanked Mayor Bush for hosting the vintage baseball games and expressed appreciation of the historic wooden grandstand and ballfield. Larry suggested that the letter should be addressed to Glenn Ceponis, Executive Director of the New Jersey Historic Trust. The letter will be sent out by Melissa Tigar.

Larry said he spoke with Bill Goldsworth and sent him some information. Larry has not yet received a response. He was unable to reach Ed Laubach.

Larry also shared a letter dated May 9th addressed to Melissa Tigar from Glenn Ceponis at the New Jersey Historic Trust. The subject was acknowledgment of the Riegel Ridge Community Center Grant Application. The letter requested scheduling an on-site visit to Riegel Ridge or a phone call. Neither has been arranged to-date.

Other Riegel Ridge Community Center

Dan announced that a grant was received from the State of New Jersey. The grant will cover the cost of a chain link fence around the entire Riegel Ridge pool structure.

Dendrochronology Project

Larry asked for recommendations of houses that could be sampled. He reported that the Chad Ege house does not have enough datable timbers. The timbers there are mostly chestnut, which cannot be dated. Also, there are not enough datable timbers in the Ege or Rummel smokehouses. The Ferry house or Eichlin house are potential structures to test.

Hunterdon County 250th

Larry shared a flyer of the May 25th square dance at Milford, featuring the Burnt Mills Highballers. This may be a good idea for the Hunterdon County 250th celebration. JoAnn Bonham Schaible attended the most recent 250th planning meeting on June 1st at Flemington. She reported that Marcia Karrow asked about the Amsterdam Historic District. However, the hamlet of Amsterdam was settled after the Revolutionary War.

Larry mentioned that Durham Furnace and Pursley's Ferry existed during the time of the Revolution. Larry said he was able to match the signature of George Taylor, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, with a tavern petition at Pursley's Ferry.

Other Business

- **Historic Properties Index** – JoAnn added a new column to the index. Stacey Rister is populating the new column based on local information from the National Register of Historic Places.
- **Preservation NJ (PNJ) Letter** – Larry mentioned a letter dated May 28th from Dale K. Perry – Business Manager requesting feature stories and participation in virtual events. Larry asked if Commission members had any ideas for stories (e.g. restoration of grandstand).
- **Historic Markers / Signage** – JoAnn proposed the idea of installing historic markers or signage at the Warren Glen Mill and Hughesville Mill.

Show & Tell

- **Book** – “Nothing at All” by Wanda Gag (1941) - Tim

Public Comment - N/A

Next Meeting: Monday, August 5th, 2024 at 7:00PM

Meeting Adjourned at 8:20 PM