

# Holland Township Historic Preservation Commission Meeting

Monday, August 5, 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 Sciarello

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

### **June 2024 Minutes were approved with revisions.**

### **Holland Township 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Kathy Sciarello announced that the 150<sup>th</sup> commemorative postcards arrived at the Holland municipal office. She showed samples of standard size (4" X 6") and large size (5" X 7") postcards. Dan Bush stated that a set of four postcards (two small, two large) will be provided to each winner. Additional postcards will be available for purchase at Community Day on September 7<sup>th</sup>. Dan said the price will be \$5.00 for a set of six, or \$1 each.

Kathy showed the latest version of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary book. The next version will include a photograph of the Holland's Sustainable New Jersey certification plaque. Tim Fazekas took a new picture of the plaque during this meeting and sent it to Kathy. The anniversary book will be offered for sale at Community Day for \$5.00 each.

Dan asked if there is any interest in setting up a table or booth at Community Day. The table will be located behind the Community Center to the rear of the patio. Stacey Rister offered to manage the booth. Beverly Kirby-McDonough will supply a pop-up canopy. Kathy agreed to bring postcards and books.

Dan recommended documenting the restoration of the water tower at Riegel Ridge. He suggested taking pictures of the work in progress.

Stacey covered the proposal of a square dance at Riegel Ridge. The event will be planned for November and coordinated with Parks and Recreation (contact Joseph Somers). The cost will consist of \$600 for the band, "The Burnt Mills Highballers", and \$100 for a caller. The event will be offered for free to the general public. Stacey agreed to follow up with Jessica Neglia, Director - Riegel Ridge Community Center.

### **Grandstand Renovation and Riegel Ridge Community Center**

Larry LaFevre reported that he and Michael Margulies met with Alexis Aley of the New Jersey Historic Trust on June 27<sup>th</sup>. They provided Ms. Aley with a tour of Riegel Ridge. They toured the grandstand. When Mr. Margulies left, Larry showed the patio, grove, pool and interior of the Community Center. Ms. Aley noticed the award from Preservation New Jersey in the gymnasium. She took a photograph of the plaque to add to the New Jersey Historic Trust documentation.

Larry shared that he visited with James W. Lance, Esq. at his office in Clinton, NJ. Mr. Lance is a baseball aficionado and keeper of baseball history. On behalf of the Township of Lebanon Museum, he presented a talk about the Tri-County Baseball League on July 20, 2024.

Larry mentioned that blinds are still needed in the historic preservation room at Riegel Ridge. Dan agreed to follow up on this issue. Tim asked why exterior shutters were not added to the Community Center during renovation. Old photographs of the Community Center should be reviewed.

Larry asked if there was any activity on the “before and after” photo project. The project is intended to pick up where the Frank Stull photographs left off by adding new pictures. The old photographs are available in the preservation room and online. They can be retrieved from the PowerPoint presentation.

Dan asked for confirmation that the signed baseballs are still located at Riegel Ridge. He suggested checking with Heather Jenkins. Dan said the baseballs should be displayed in the lobby. Kathy suggested placing them in the same glass case as the old baseball uniforms. Dan said the T-shirt, signed by all the players in the pickleball tournament, should be stored upstairs in the preservation room. Kathy agreed to follow up with Heather and Jessica.

### **Historic Properties List**

Larry mentioned that he sent the latest Historic Properties List to Commission members on July 15<sup>th</sup>. The version included updates by Stacey to identify properties listed on the National and State registers of historic places. Larry announced that the Slate farm recently closed. Total preserved farmland in Holland Township is now 2,802 acres.

### **Dendrochronology Project**

Larry reported that no datable structures or those with obtainable permission could be identified. The grant received from the United Kingdom by consultant, Carla Cielo, will be used for an appropriate structure outside Holland Township.

### **Hunterdon County 250<sup>th</sup>**

Joe Becker said he attended the most recent meeting on August 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Main Branch of the Hunterdon County Library in Flemington. Twelve attendees were present. It was discussed that a 20-foot wooden “liberty pole” will be shared among Hunterdon municipalities for the 250<sup>th</sup> celebration. The significance of the pole dates back to 1774 political speeches in Massachusetts.

### **Other Business**

- **Holland Township Fall Newsletter** – Larry asked if anyone had ideas for the newsletter. Submission is due September 6<sup>th</sup>. Dan proposed a year-end review of 150<sup>th</sup> events and coverage of the grant received for the Riegel Ridge grandstand.
- **Historic Videos at Riegel Ridge** – Dan mentioned that there was an abundance of positive feedback on these videos. Tim proposed that the videos can be made available to the public after Community Day. They can be hosted on YouTube on the Holland Free Public Library channel. Tim agreed to reach out Jean Hewens, Vice President of the library.

### **Show & Tell**

- **Book** – “Death of Fascism: Louis Adamic’s Fight for Democracy” by J. P. Enyeart (2019) – Larry
- **Magazine Article** – “The Louis Adamics Live Here” (1942) – Kathy
- **Cora Rapp Life Story** – As dictated to her grand-daughter – Kathy
- **3 Photographs** – 1) Earl Tinsman at Milford Atlantic gas station (est. 1967). 2) Raccoon hunt showing Orville Wieder and Earl Vanderbilt. 3) Dam for the raceway to mill by Holland Station (near Route 627). - Larry

**Public Comment** - N/A

**Next Meeting: Monday, October 7th, 2024 at 7:00PM**

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:20 PM**