

**WARREN COUNTY BICENTENNIAL
CULTURAL & HERITAGE ADVISORY BOARD**

500 Mt. Pisgah Avenue
Oxford, NJ 07863

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
November 17, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER: Vice Chairperson Mr. Fineran opened the meeting at 5:03 p.m. and read the Open Public Meeting Notice and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Laurie Rapisardi, Jane Primerano, Charles Fineran, Jeanette Iurato, John Metroke, Nancy Miller

Staff Present: Corey Tierney, Christina Roberts, Gina Rosseland, Dennis Austin, Art Charlton

Minutes: The October 20, 2020 minutes were reviewed. Ms. Iurato noted that the Facebook post regarding Benjamin Lundy was posted on behalf of the Blairstown Museum, not the Blairstown Historic Committee. Mr. Fineran motioned, seconded by Ms. Miller to approve the minutes as revised. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Bicentennial Commemoration

Logo – Mr. Tierney forwarded the updated logo from Mr. Margulies for members to review. Once approved, Mr. Margulies will provide the vector files for use. The Board agreed the logo looks good.

Membership – Mr. Tierney said that at a recent Freeholder meeting, Mr. Gardner expressed interest in being appointed into the vacant position on the Bicentennial Board after his Freeholder term expires. The Board members agreed that would be an excellent idea.

Website – Mr. Tierney and Mr. Charlton attended a meeting with Granicus regarding the website. Draft wire frame was forwarded to the members for review. The Board will need to determine three colors in order of priority to develop a color palette for the Bicentennial page. Mr. Charlton said the County's website colors are blue, green, and yellow/gold. Ms. Primerano suggested using off-white/ecru to stand out from the white background. Mr. Charlton suggested using the County flag colors. The Board agrees with blue and gold as the main colors, with green as an accent color. Ms. Rosseland inquired what the main picture(s) would be on the Bicentennial's website. Mr. Charlton said it could be any number of rotating photos. Ms. Rosseland also suggested having the main tabs/circles as blue and the "News" bar as green. The Board agreed that color scheme would look nice. The demonstration video from the website developer will be shared with the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

County Museums and CHPP Grant

Museum & Arts Program updates were mailed out with the agenda for review prior to the meeting.

CHPP Grant Final Report – The CHPP Grant final report form was sent out to regrantees, which is due back December 4th. The County's final report must be submitted to the State by December 31st. The report requests that regrantees describe Covid-19 challenges and how they utilized the additional \$1,000.

Webinar - The first of a two-part webinar with Gary McGowan had internet issues. The second part of the series will be scheduled in early December. Once the second part is complete, the webinar will be added to the County's YouTube channel.

The Friends of Shippen volunteers obtained used sheets to cover the furniture at the manor to help prevent everything from getting dusty while it is closed to the public.

Shippen Manor HVAC System - Che Mechanical looked at the furnace and air conditioner and said the manor will likely need a new HVAC system (both air conditioning and heat).

Wall Deconstruction - The wall deconstruction was completed. Ms. Rosseland took numerous photos and retained samples of mortar and fill from various areas. Mr. Margulies will assist with report to SHPO.

The lower pillar on southeast side was numbered and deconstructed down to grade (to be reconstructed later) and the stones are being stored in a locked dumpster at the Bridge Department.

Next week, the NJ Youth Corps will decorate the exterior of Shippen Manor for the holidays.

Slate steps at Shippen Manor have been repaired.

Lime Kilns - Ms. Rosseland has found approximately 50 lime kilns throughout the county and hopes to locate at least that many more. She reached out to farmers and property owners. A surveyor from Marksboro and Mr. Margulies both want to assist in the location and preservation of lime kilns. Ms. Rosseland has been locating the lime kilns on various maps and then going out to search for and photograph them. Mr. Tierney will research if conservation easements can be acquired on privately owned properties containing the lime kilns, but a municipality or non-profit may have to hold the easement.

Ms. Rosseland has reached a dead-end with the schoolhouses since many are no longer standing or have been converted to homes.

Ms. Rosseland been posting about the old churches in the county; she posted about the Marksboro Church today. Ms. Rosseland walked through the Marksboro cemetery last weekend and noted that there are several Civil War Veterans buried in there. The only son of the original owners of the Hainesburg Hotel (currently Animal Mansion veterinary hospital) is buried in the Marksboro cemetery and the monument is tallest in Warren County.

Grist Mills - Mr. Tierney suggested Ms. Rosseland's next project be on grist mills once she completes the lime kiln project.

Decorating the Manor for Christmas - Oxford Township Planning Committee is decorating Main Street and wanted to assist with decorating Shippen Manor. Since NJ Youth Corps already decorates the Manor annually, Mr. Tierney suggested that they decorate the smaller 30' evergreen at the bottom of the hill, but the old lights that are still on the tree from years prior will need to be removed. The Board agreed. Ms. Iurtao suggested doing a virtual tree lighting to be posted online.

Arts Grant Regrantees - Mr. Austin asked if anyone had questions regarding his report. Ms. Primerano said that Music at St. Luke's hosted the Noble Brothers at Garret Wall Park. Mr. Austin noted that Music at St. Luke's is one of the regrantees and they provide excellent concerts.

Mr. Austin said they received another \$5,000 from the State Council on the Arts, but it must be spent under specific stipulations. He is trying to expend the rest of the Arts Grant funds by the end of the year. Ms. Rapisardi noted the Hackettstown BID Winter Fest will be held in January 2021.

Virtual Concert - Mr. Charlton received the video link for the virtual concert from Matt Koch (Mountain Heritage) for the County YouTube Channel.

Warren Heritage Scenic Byway Committee Liaison – Ms. Primerano is no longer able to serve as liaison to the Warren Heritage Scenic Byway Committee. The new liaison appointment will be tabled to the January meeting.

Reorganization - The Bicentennial Cultural & Heritage Advisory Board reorganization will be held during the regularly scheduled January meeting.

Next Meeting: The Board agreed to cancel the December meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for January 20, 2021 at 5:00 pm via WebEx.

Adjournment: There being no further business, Mr. Fineran motioned, seconded by Ms. Iurato to adjourn the meeting at 6:19 pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christina Roberts
Administrative Clerk