

**WARREN COUNTY MUNICIPAL AND CHARITABLE CONSERVANCY
TRUST FUND COMMITTEE**

500 Mt. Pisgah Avenue
Oxford, NJ 07863

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
September 14, 2015**

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Fineran opened the meeting at 7:31 p.m., read the Open Public Meeting Notice, and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Louis Cartabona	Jean Smolha	Todd Tersigni	Cindy Neumann
Beth Calabrese	Joel McGreen	Lori Ciesla	Nancy Miller
Charles Fineran	David Smith	Hal Bromm	Timothy Bodine

Members Absent: None

Guests Present: See attached sign-in sheet

Staff Present: Corey Tierney, Christina Roberts

MINUTES: The July 6, 2015 minutes were reviewed. Todd Tersigni made a motion, seconded by Louis Cartabona to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS:

Chairman Fineran noted that tonight's meeting is intended to give applicants the opportunity to deliver their presentations to the Committee. Applicants are invited back to the October 5th MCCTFC meeting to provide any further clarification or answer any questions the Committee may have on the applications or presentations.

All applicants that were requested to provide further information to the Committee submitted what was requested. Some adjustments to requests were made due to revised requests; a spreadsheet with the new figures will be provided to Committee members prior to the next meeting.

Ramsayburg Homestead - Ken Metcalf and Candace Nattland from Knowlton Historic Commission provided an overview of the grant request. They also gave examples of the community events held at Ramsayburg, such as the Summer Concert Series, Fall Festival, Memorial Day Picnic, Christmas in the Country, Eagle Scout projects, and educational school trips. Ramsayburg is listed on both the State and National Historic Registers.

Footbridge Park Expansion - Blairstown Mayor Herman Schumaker and Bob Canace discussed the application for the Footbridge Park Expansion. The property would create a waterfront park and expand the existing park across the Paulinskill River. The building would be demolished and the site would be "greened", with only the minimum-required amount of parking spaces installed. Mr. Cartabona asked what tax revenue the property brings in; the answer was unknown at the meeting (Mr. Canace followed-up with an answer via email the next day).

Rutherford Hall - Mayor Betty Schultheis and staff from Rutherford Hall were present. They explained that the application is for the building envelope preservation, structural reinforcement, to prevent water entry at ground level, updating electrical outlets, and installation of a safe under the main staircase to store valuable antiques. Rutherford Hall offers public and private events, such as the Fourth of July event, Hunger Games and Harry Potter themed kids' programs, jazz concerts, Halloween and Christmas events, and this year's Warren County Preservation Day event. Laurie Rapisardi also gave an overview of the art workshops provided year-round. Rutherford Hall is listed on both the State and National Historic Registers.

Asbury Mill - The Musconetcong Watershed Association members Chuck Gullage, Bill Levins, and Beth Styler-Berry were in attendance. Mr. Gullage gave an overview of the application for roof replacement, masonry repair, septic system installation, and replacement of internal wooden structural members. Once completed, they intend to convert the Mill into museum space, office space, and machinery storage. The final concept is still in planning stages. A fire escape also will be installed on either the second or third floor, as required by code. There were several revisions to their request in order to accommodate the match requirement. Their revised request is \$444,000 from the MCCTFC and their match is \$150,885. Mr. McGreen asking if they had a sequential plan for restoration if they were not awarded the full requested amount. Ms. Styler-Berry said they are requesting the full project amount, but would prioritize projects and do them in stages if awarded less. Ms. Calabrese asked why there was still a balance on the previous grant they were awarded. Ms. Styler-Berry explained that funds are dedicated to specific projects and will be expended very soon.

Old Greenwich School - Mr. Margulies presented the application for roof and building envelope stabilization. Several Committee members inquired about future intentions for the building and were concerned that there wasn't a definite plan for its use. Mr. Margulies explained that the grant request is for stabilization and solely to protect the building from further damage. The Township would like to see a non-profit take over the building to continue with its restoration. Remediation estimates for mold, asbestos, and lead paint have not been obtained at this point. Because the school was built in 1837 and is located in Greenwich Township's Historic District, the building is eligible to be listed as a historic structure.

Shimer Mansion - The house was built in 1850 by William Shimer. The Pohatcong History and Heritage Society received the house as a donation from the Carpenter family in May 2015. The house has been abandoned for approximately 16 years. There is a lot of water damage from a leaky roof and kids have been breaking into it over the years. The application is for replacement of the roof and windows, and some masonry repair. A large amount of clean-up work has already been done at the site by volunteers. The intended future use of the site is to be the Pohatcong History and Heritage Society headquarters and to be the focal point of their house tours.

First Presbyterian Church of Washington - The church, built in 1864 is the only one left in the area in the Romanesque Revival design. The four-spire bell tower was constructed in 1919 after the steeple was destroyed by a storm. The church applied for funding last year, but did not receive their letter of eligibility to be listed in the State and National Registers of Historic Places until May 2015. The grant request is for millwork restoration, building envelope, and structure stabilization.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is October 5, 2015.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, Todd Tersigni made a motion, seconded by Hal Bromm to adjourn the meeting at 9:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Christina Roberts
Administrative Clerk

Guest Signals

Ken Metcalf, Knowlton Historic Commission

Candice Natford " " "

CARL SHUSTER " " "

Dennis S. Melillo " "

Rosalie Murray Blairstown Enhancement Committee

Robert Murray "

PAUL AVERY BLAIRSTOWN COMMITTEE

BOB HALBERSTADT - BLAIRSTOWN ENH. COMM.

CHRISTINA KOLODZIESKI - Knowlton Historic Commission

GEORGE VAN VELDHIJSEN FIRST PRES CHURCH WASHINGTON

ERIK FARGO FIRST PRES. CHURCH WASHINGTON

Karen Graf First Presbyterian Washington

Jean Bowers First Presbyterian Church Washington

JOAN MILLER FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WASHINGTON

Anthony Furato

HERMAN SCHOENAKER BLAIRSTOWN MAYOR

Bob Canace Ridge and Valley Conservancy, President

Douley Meris Knowlton Historic Commission

- JOSEPH E. FLYNN ALLAMUCHT TOWNSHIP SCHOOL

Laurie Lapisardi Rutherford Hall

Betty Schuttekin Mayor Allamuchy Rutherford Hall

TOM MARTIN GRANT WRITER - RUTHERFORD HALL

Michelle Adams Stewartville School

Donna Detrick Stewartville School

Rev. Jim Scovell First Presbyterian Church (Washington)

Eleanor Jensen First Presbyterian Church (WASH.)

Deelacey First Presbyterian Church, Wash. ng

Margie Rust " " " "

Dorothy Shulman " " " "