MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF October 7, 2013

WARREN COUNTY MUNICIPAL AND CHARITABLE CONSERVANCY TRUST FUND COMMITTEE

500 Mt. Pisgah Avenue Oxford, New Jersey 07863

Members Present:

Sam Race

Charles Fineran

David Smith

Ellen Johnson Demeter

Jim Watters Jean Smolha

Desiree Denker Todd Tersigni

Nancy Miller

Members Absent:

Michael Helbing

Samir Elbassiouny

Staff Present:

Corey Tierney, Sue Beall, and Teresa Kaminski

Others Present:

Allamuchy Mayor Betty Schultheis, Amy Hufnagel, Mary Renaud, Seth Cohen and Dr. Tim Fredericks for Rutherfurd Hall; Beth

Barry, Chuck Gullage, Bill Leavens and Cinny MacGonagle, for Musconetcong Watershed Association; Greg Socha and Noelle Kacerek for The Trust for Public Land; Bob Canace and Joel McGreen for Ridge and Valley Conservancy; Richard Ohl and Al Carrazzone for the Hardwick Township Historical Society, and

Michael Margulies and Claire for Eclectic Architecture.

Chairman Fineran opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m., and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the meeting of September 9, 2013, were approved on a motion by Mrs. Demeter, second by Mr. Watters. Motion approved unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE:

This evening's correspondence was material requested from applicants pertinent to their projects and will be discussed during review of applications.

Chairman Fineran thanked everyone who has participated in this round for their ongoing assistance and cooperation.

PUBLIC INPUT:

Richard Ohl, President of the Hardwick Township Historical Society wished to bring the Committee up to date on the progress of the restoration of the Vass Farmstead. The project is just about two months from completion. The restroom is complete and the kitchen is almost complete. Mr. Ohl also mentioned the Barn Dance taking place Saturday evening from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., in the beautifully restored barn. All are invited and tickets will be available at the door. He also took this opportunity to urge the public to visit the Vass Farmstead to see the 1812 limestone farm house that has also been restored.

OLD BUSINESS:

Chairman Fineran explained that the presentations would begin and that each applicant would have time for their PowerPoint portion plus any questions on their project.

Walnut Valley Fields – Ridge and Valley Conservancy

Bob Canace, President, and Joel McGreen, Vice President, presented the PowerPoint of an 11.69 acre property currently being farmed in corn and hay, destined for cold season grasses as a refuge for butterflies and birds. Mr. McGreen explained that a figure for a 60% revision would be doable, however with only a 40% grant, preservation of this property by RV&C would be impossible.

Rutherfurd Hall – Allamuchy Township Board of Education

Mayor Schultheis opened the presentation with a brief introduction and then Ms. Hufnagel took over outlining projects completed and accomplishments of the applicant. Ms. Hufnagel's PowerPoint consisted of 35 slides of the house and surrounding area. Emphasis was placed on the fact that the Friends of Rutherfurd Hall will be capable of maintaining this magnificent site once the restoration is complete. Revised application figures are \$72,000 and \$36,000.

<u>Shabecong Mountain Preserve – The Trust for Public Land</u>

Greg Socha conducted the PowerPoint presentation explaining the previous subdivision plans of this property and the revisions to the application. At 33% of the original total application request, TPL is left with a shortfall of \$900,000. It is not clear who will hold the title of this property if funded, but the Borough may be a possibility.

<u>Asbury Grist Mill – Musconetcong Watershed Association</u>

Chuck Gullage presented the PowerPoint for the MWA outling the entire project including Phase I, which was funded previously by the MCCTFC. The current application is for Phase II or the building envelope. The revision is for 70% and 40% reduction in the original figure. Mr. Gullage explained that with the 70%, two sides of the mill could be restored and all of the windows and doors replaced along with the necessary frames. The 40% funding would allow

only for restoration of the north and west sides of the mill. He encouraged the Committee to consider the 70% figure in their discussion of the funding.

Mr. Fineran again thanked the Committee and the audience for their attendance and attention.

Mrs. Demeter made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Watters.

Mr. Fineran adjourned the meeting at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Jusun W. Beall

Susan W. Beall, Clerk

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DEPT. OF LAND PRESERVATION

Pamela L. Miller 2 Pequest Furnace Road Oxford, New Jersey October 24, 2013

Warren County Department of Land Preservation PO Box 179 Oxford, New Jersey 07863

Dear Mr. Tierney:

The members of the Oxford Colonial United Methodist Church would like to invite you and the others who were responsible for the decision to give us the grant that made the stabilization of our church building possible to attend our Centennial Homecoming Weekend and Rededication Worship Service being held November 16 and 17, 2013.

As this phase of the stabilization nears completion and we hope the weather remains relatively calm, we will be having a day of history on Saturday, November 16 beginning at 10:00 am with presentations throughout the day. Planned are a walking tour of the Oxford Furnace and Mill with Andy Drysdale, and a plaque is being dedicated by the Society of Colonial Wars in New Jersey at the furnace site. The day continues with programs about the Methodist Circuit Riders , the History of the Methodist Churches in Oxford, and a brief overview of the stabilization process will be presented to the public.

We wanted to make sure that you and the members of your department received a personal invitation and thank you from our congregation. We have invited all of our members both past and present, our former ministers, and the public to attend this celebration. Some of our local and state elected officials have been invited as well. I have included a copy of the invitation which has been sent out to various organizations. Please share it with the members of your department.

Sunday November 17, 2013 at 10:30 am, our congregation will be having a Rededication Worship Service. Everyone is welcome to attend with us and share in our celebration.

Again, thank you and your organization for all of their help in this project. We hope that you all will come and visit with us during our Centennial Homecoming Weekend celebration.

Sincerely yours,

Pamela L. Miller

Centennial Homecoming Weekend Coordinator