

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

500 Mt. Pisgah Avenue
Oxford, NJ 07863

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
June 16, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Rapisardi opened the meeting at 5:02 p.m. and read the Open Public Meeting Notice.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Laurie Rapisardi, Jane Primerano, Ingrid Gray, Charles Fineran, John Metroke, Nancy Miller

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

Minutes: The May 19, 2020 minutes were reviewed. Mr. Fineran motioned, seconded by Ms. Gray to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

COORESPONDENCE – The Department received a letter from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) regarding proposed improvements to replace Route 94 over Jacksonburg Creek and realign Jacksonburg Road. No historical structures or artifacts has previously been found on-site. Ms. Iurato stated in an email, "As for 115 Route 94 (Block 1402, Lot 17) that is the original Jacksonburg Schoolhouse. However, the building has had some modifications over the years." Ms. Rosseland will follow up with Ms. Iurato to find out more about the significance of the schoolhouse.

OLD BUSINESS

Bicentennial Commemoration

July 23rd Kickoff Event – Mr. Charlton spoke with the band; they decided to cancel their tour for this summer, but anticipate restarting next summer. Mr. Charlton was referred to another band, but they were also unavailable for that date and much more expensive.

Ms. Primerano said St. Luke's Music Committee canceled the Russian choral group but are hoping to still hold their Moravian Christmas event in December. That would be good event to distribute marketing materials at.

Mr. Fineran motioned, seconded by Ms. Miller to table all large events until 2021. Motion carried.

Ms. Miller suggested reaching out to Mayors of municipalities to inform them of the forthcoming Bicentennial events.

Bicentennial Logo – A logo design by Mr. Margulies was emailed to everyone for review. Ms. Miller suggested changing the arch of the lettering and the location of the clock. Ms. Miller motioned, seconded by Mr. Fineran to approve the logo after suggested changes are made. Motion carried.

T-Shirts – Ms. Rapisardi and Mr. Fineran will research prices on various marketing materials with the new logo to help advertise the Bicentennial commemoration.

Historical Booklet – Ms. Gray suggested covering 25-year time periods for the booklet, so it does not get too cumbersome. Board members will be assigned several municipalities to contact and request local historical information. Each municipality will be given parameters regarding the information the Board is seeking. This can also be a good opportunity to share marketing materials and inform them of the upcoming Bicentennial celebration. Ms. Rosseland said the latest book on Warren County that

covers all of the municipalities was done in 1911. The Board discussed other potential topics, locations, and contributors for the booklet.

Heritage Weekend – Sussex County's deadline to hear back for event participants was today, and they have only heard from two people. Mr. Fineran suggested nothing be planned just yet for the fall. The Board discussed revisiting the idea for the winter on a smaller scale. Ms. Primarano motioned, seconded by Ms. Miller to postpone the Heritage Weekend to 2021. Motion carried.

County Museums and CHPP Grant

CHPP Grant - The state granted an extension to September 30th due to delays caused by Covid-19. The groups have not started their projects yet, but the Freeholders approved applications last week. Grant agreements were mailed out to recipients for signature.

Tours and museum events - Both still on hold. Ms. Rosseland emailed the updated/modified 2020 schedule to the BCHAB this morning. The schedule is pending approval to open the museum. Additional modifications will be made as the season progresses.

Volunteers - Resignations have decreased the volunteer staff from three docents and five volunteers (greeters, gardener, office) down to two docents and one volunteer (possibly) who hasn't confirmed, but said he'd like to switch to doing gardening because he'd rather not be around people right now due to Covid-19. Waiting until the County permits volunteers on site. Advertising for volunteers on Facebook, Warren Parks website, and elsewhere on county Social Media.

Sunday, July 5th Commemorative Reading of the Declaration - Chris Black of the Bachmann Players is tentatively scheduled for 7/5 from 12:30-1:00 pm to do a commemorative reading of the Declaration of Independence on the lower level east porch. He usually is the reader for Easton's DOI event (which is after July 4th), but they is considering doing a virtual reading. Mr. Austin is tentatively scheduled as Town Crier. Ms. Rosseland was not able to secure a fife & drum or a color guard prior to Covid-19. Mr. Black wants to wait and see if the numbers of Covid-19 affected increases in Northampton Co., PA (where he lives), Newark, NJ (where he works), and in Warren County.

Rehabilitation at the Manor

1. Completed lower level east porch and are finishing upper level east porch this week. Flooring needs final paint coat(s)
2. Northeast porches (office and mechanical rooms) are completed—flooring need final paint coat(s)
3. Rain gutters are to be installed on west side and in other places where they were missing. Any prior wood damage caused by water due to no rain gutters will be repaired and repainted (i.e. west office porch).
4. Dennis Dillon, who contributed to the restoration in the 1990s, is repairing or rebuilding the shutters for the Manor. Currently, he is working on the top floor, east. He will also be repairing doors as needed and installing replacement glass panes where needed.
 - a. Office window (1 pane)
 - b. Reception Room (1 sidelight rectangular pane)
 - c. Eyebrow window, rear (1 pane)
 - d. Archaeology room (1 pane)
 - e. Columns on museum porches will be repaired (TBD)
 - f. Railings and columns mostly repaired and painted
 - g. Completion of rehabilitation should be within the next couple of weeks.

Social Media & Website

Facebook - Ms. Rosseland just completed the five-part Asbury (Franklin Twp., Warren County) series. Now that she is back in the office, she will try to post two to three times per week about local history and the museum. The Facebook page has 633 followers as of today. Ms. Rosseland posted about the anniversary of Lincoln's House Divided Speech.

Website - Working with the webmaster to connect the WCCHC page at warrenparks.com to Facebook to display all posts for viewers who do not have a Facebook account. Ms. Rosseland has been posting updates on the website.

Arts Grants

Lawn Concert Series – Mr. Austin has scheduled virtual concerts for June and July, but is hoping to have live concerts in August and September.

Mr. Fineran inquired if any funding sources were decreased due to Covid-19. Mr. Tierney said that nothing has been impacted for 2020, but is uncertain how it will affect 2021 funding.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for July 21, 2020 – if it is not permissible to meet in person, the meeting will be held at 5:00 pm via WebEx.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:25 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christina Roberts', written over the typed name below.

Christina Roberts
Administrative Clerk