

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

500 Mt. Pisgah Avenue
Oxford, NJ 07863

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
November 21, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Rapisardi called the meeting to order at 5:00PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Laurie Rapisardi, Charles Fineran, Mark Young, Karin White, Jane Primerano
(arrived at 5:04pm),

Members Absent: Richard Gardner, Randy Piazza Sr

Staff Present: Corey Tierney, Gina Rosseland, Kim Barnes, Art Charlton

Staff Absent: Commissioner Director Lori Ciesla

INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

Ms. Rapisardi read the opening statement.

MINUTES

The October 17, 2023 minutes were reviewed. Mr. Fineran made a motion to approve the minutes as is. Mr. Young seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

none

CORRESPONDENCE

none

OLD BUSINESS

BICENTENNIAL BOOK:

Ms. Rosseland received chapters from Franklin Twp., Greenwich Twp., Harmony, Hope, and Washington Boro. Brenda Higgins of the Franklin Twp. historical commission will be working on Independence and Liberty. She is helping with towns that have no active historical group. Ms. Rosseland is still waiting on updated photographs/postcards from Harmony. Blairstown is working on their chapter as well.

WEBSITE:

Ms. Rosseland reported the website is being updated as needed. The contact link was fixed, as it was not working.

HISTORIC MARKERS:

Ms. Rosseland reported that Hope (2022 grantee) hit a snag and they may not get their sign installed until January. Washington BID is redoing their sign and will let Ms. Rosseland know when they are ready to install it. Harmony was given permission to order their sign. The 2023 signs are supposed to be installed before March 2024.

ROARING TWENTIES GALA:

Ms. Rapisardi asked David's Country Inn about available dates for the gala in 2024. They only had M, T, and W available. There were 2 Thursdays (1/11 and 2/15). It was suggested to ask for Wednesday, 11/20/24, since that is a week before Thanksgiving and is the actual 200th anniversary of the legislature passed to separate Warren County from Sussex County.

For the daytime concert & picnic, the location was going to be Rutherford Hall; however, after board discussion, the first choice is now to hold it at Bread Lock Park. Mr. Tierney suggested July 13, 20, or 27. Ms. Rosseland said they need to start looking into booking food trucks now for a summer event.

OUTREACH EVENTS:

History Trail 11/4 & 11/5 10am-4pm -

This was the third year for the history trail. Ms. Rosseland reported there were about 180 visitors at Shippen Manor. Vass Homestead had about 120 visitors. Belvidere had a self-guided walking tour around town and Mr. Young said about 50 people stopped by the Community Center. Ms. Primerano said St. Luke's Church was part of Hope's self-guided walking tour and that Hope had a good turnout. Mr. Fineran said about 80 people came to Rutherford Hall.

Shippen Manor is also offering Victorian Christmas tours on 12/3 and 12/10. The 11am, 12pm, and 1pm specialized tours that are reservation only and include dulcimer music are already completely booked. From 2pm-4pm on both days, walk-ins are welcome, but do not include the music or specialized tours.

NEW BUSINESS

OUTREACH EVENTS:

Ms. Rosseland will reach out to the towns in January to see what events are planned where the bicentennial can be promoted.

COUNTY MUSEUMS & CHPP GRANTS:

Shippen Manor's 270th anniversary will tentatively be celebrated on 5/5/24.

The 2024 CHPP Grant Application is posted on Warren200.com. For 2024, it will be \$2,500 for Round One. Round Two is based on how much money is left after the first round and how many groups.

COUNTY ARTS PROGRAMS:

Ms. Rosseland reports there are 12 applicants for the Arts grants, one more than last year. Local Arts Programming (LAP) grants and mini-grants (under \$2,000) information is posted on Warren200.com. For 2024, it will be a one-time ask/grant.

The position for P/T Program Development Specialist, Cultural and Heritage Affairs is still open.

PUBLIC COMMENT (open)

Ms. White attended a Veteran's Day tribute sponsored by The Campbell Cultural Heritage House Organization recognizing African American WWI soldiers. It was held on 11/12 at the Mt. Pisgah AME Church in Washington, which is the church Captain Campbell attended.

NEXT MEETING

Ms. Rapisardi suggested cancelling the meeting on December 19 due to the busyness of the month with end of year items and the holidays. Ms. Primerano made a motion to cancel it. Mr. Fineran seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried. The next meeting will be held January 16, 2024.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Young made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:54PM, seconded by Mr. Fineran. All in favor; meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim Barnes
Clerk, Land Preservation Dept.