

Holland Township Historic Preservation Commission Meeting

Monday, August 1, 2022
Holland Twp. Municipal Building, 7 PM

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:02 PM

Present: Joseph Becker, Lori Bonham, Dan Bush, Larry LaFevre, Beverly Kirby-McDonough, JoAnn Bonham Schaible, Kathy Sciarello

Excused: Carl Molter

Adequate notice of this meeting was given pursuant to the open public meeting act by the Twp. Clerk on December 9, 2021.

Minutes of the June 2022 meeting were approved.

Inventory at Riegel Ridge and Filing

JoAnn Bonham Schaible said she created an index of all the “Spot-Lite” and “Riegel Paper” newsletters stored at the Riegel Ridge Community Center. A sample of the index was handed out. The index includes data such as volume number, issue date, lead story and name of donor (if available). JoAnn asked about two items in particular; a poem about “Shorty” Frace, also a handwritten essay, “Things I Remember About Holland Township and the Adjacent Area” probably written by George Stull. Kathy Sciarello mentioned that she transcribed the essay.

Dan Bush recommended the purchase of archival boxes through a Township purchase order. (See Maria Elena Kozak). Sufficient funding is available in the budget.

Plaque at Riegel Ridge Stage

Larry LaFevre asked for suggestions about the proposed plaque at Riegel Ridge. The plaque will memorialize the restoration of the floor, stage and windows, including the range of dates when the work was completed. Dan suggested a small, metal plaque to read “Dedicated to the Residents of Holland Township”. Dan also stated that the funding organizations should be recognized. That is; the Hunterdon County Open Space Trust Fund and the Township of Holland. Larry recommended that the plaque should be displayed near the entrance doors to the gymnasium.

Dan stressed the importance of completing annual reports in order to track improvements at Riegel Ridge and apply for future grants.

Hunterdon County 300th

Joe Becker stated that he will support the Hunterdon County 300th at the Hunterdon County 4H & Agricultural Fair near Ringoes. Joe plans to work all five days, August 24th through 28th, in the Community Tent near the tractor barn. Commemorative merchandise will be available for sale.

Hunterdon 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution

JoAnn plans to represent Holland Township at the Hunterdon 250th Kickoff Meeting scheduled for Saturday, August 20th, at the Hunterdon County Library in Flemington. She asked for any ideas related to Holland’s role in the Revolution. Kathy suggested finding local supporters of the war, not necessarily soldiers, such as the Sinclair’s.

Bunn Valley District

Larry said he participated in a Zoom conference call with Andrea Tingey of the NJ State Historic Preservation Office, two other members of the NJ HPO and Dennis Bertland. Andrea agreed to retrieve the Bunn Valley file and review it. She plans to respond within 45 days.

Other Business

Holland Happenings – Beverly Kirby-McDonough volunteered to draft an article for the upcoming *Holland Happenings* Fall newsletter. Article will focus on WPA artists, including art classes once held at Riegel Ridge.

Samuel Wilson Farm – Larry said that he has been in regular contact with Chad Ege who is restoring an old house on the property. Larry and Carla Cielo visited the house twice.

Harder Farm - Barn Fire – Larry reported that Carla Cielo was contacted by an engineer who works with the insurance company researching the Harder barn fire. The engineer requested field notes and other documentation to help estimate what it would cost to rebuild the barn. Larry also mentioned that the preservation application is moving forward.

Railroad Tracks – Milford to Riegelsville – Dan mentioned that he was contacted by an organization in conjunction with Green Acres. This organization is in negotiation to purchase property along the railroad between Milford and Riegelsville.

Lenape Nation River Journey – Larry announced that the Lenape plan to arrive in Milford about 4:00PM on Thursday, August 11th. They are planning a program at Milford Borough Park at 6:00PM followed by an overnight encampment.

Holland Township Anniversary – Kathy asked when Holland Township was officially formed. It was set off from Alexandria Township in 1874, and again in 1879. This is important to know in case the Township wants to host a commemorative event.

Holland Township Preservation Map – Larry and Dan discussed updates to the map.

Show and Tell

- “Riegel Paper Spotlight” published by Riegel Paper Co. - JoAnn

Next Meeting: Monday, October 3, 7:00PM

Meeting Adjourned at 8:00PM