

# Holland Township Historic Preservation Commission Meeting

Monday, February 6, 2023  
Holland Twp. Municipal Building, 7 PM

## Minutes

### **Meeting called to order at 7:06 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 8, 2022.*

### **Minutes of the January 2023 meeting were approved.**

Lori Bonham chose not to renew her term of membership for 2023. We thank Lori for her past service to the Commission.

### **Riegel Ridge Inventory, Storage and More**

Larry LaFevre mentioned that the storage boxes, on backorder since October, have been received. Kathy Sciarello said that the display cases are now working and able to be locked.

Kathy shared sample images of plaques to commemorate renovation of the gymnasium. Dan Bush opted for a bronze plaque. The plaque will be mounted at the entrance to the gym. Larry suggested that the NJ Historic Preservation Award plaque should be displayed directly beneath it.

Larry reported that Melissa Tigar completed paperwork to apply for a grant to paint the gymnasium. The funding will be sourced from the Township's portion of the Hunterdon County Open Space Trust Fund of approximately \$64K. About \$31K has already been used, leaving a remaining balance of about \$33K.

Larry suggested a new project. That is; to make the Riegel Ridge Community Center audio-visual friendly.

### **Grants / Grandstand Rehabilitation**

Larry and Dan discussed various sources of grants. Programs discussed included the Hunterdon County Open Space Trust Fund – Historic Preservation Grant. Larry stated that this program is complicated and competitive. It is reviewed by the Hunterdon County Cultural and Heritage Commission and the Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee (POSAC). Final approvals are made by the Board of County Commissioners. Applications are due by March 31<sup>st</sup>. Dan stressed that someone needs to represent the Township at the POSAC review. (As a member of POSAC, Dan cannot participate.) He suggested that Michael Margulies could prepare the application and possibly represent Holland Township at the review.

Larry spoke about the New Jersey Historic Trust - Capital Grant. He stated that the minimum request is \$500K, and it requires matching funds. Applications are due by April 19<sup>th</sup>. Larry also covered the New Jersey Cultural Trust Grant that now includes capital for historic preservation projects. This grant funds up to \$40K, and does not require matching funds. However, it is limited to non-profit organizations. If there is an active non-profit group affiliated with Holland, perhaps they can apply on behalf of the Township. Dan agreed to follow up with Friends of Holland Township Park. The Highlands or the Highland Coalition may also be considered.

Larry mentioned that he plans to meet next week with Michael Margulies to discuss the grants in more detail and to start the application process. Mr. Margulies is also exploring private foundation grants.

Dan expressed the need for a storage shed near the grandstand at Riegel Ridge.

## **Hunterdon County 250<sup>th</sup>**

JoAnn Bonham Schaible, Beverly Kirby-McDonough and Larry attended a planning meeting of the Hunterdon County 250<sup>th</sup> on January 7<sup>th</sup> in Flemington. The purpose of this early phase of planning is to gather ideas. Eventually, meetings will be held on a monthly basis.

### **Carla Cielo's Barn Survey Presentation**

Larry stated that the Barn Survey Presentation is scheduled for Sunday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm at the Holland Township municipal building. The presentation will cover barn surveys, early settlement patterns and more. Invitations will be extended to barn owners. The event will be promoted on social media, the Township website and Hunterdon report.

### **Other Business**

- **1959 Harder Farm Sale Poster** – Larry mentioned that he took the poster to be framed on January 17<sup>th</sup>. It will be displayed at the municipal building.
- **Historical Table at Riegel Ridge** – Dan spoke about the Louis XIV antique table, part of the original Riegel collection. The protection of the table was discussed, as well as how to memorialize the historical significance of the piece.
- **Tour of the Hunterdon County Historical Society Archives** – JoAnn and Beverly attended a tour of the archives on January 16<sup>th</sup>.

### **Public Comment N/A**

### **Show and Tell**

- Cookbook – “Favorite Recipes”, Riegel Ridge Community Center, Morris Press - Kathy
- Party Book – Town Tavern, Milford, NJ – Kathy

**Next Meeting: Monday, March 6th, 7:00PM**

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:02 PM**