

Holland Township Historic Preservation Commission Meeting

Monday, May 1, 2023
Holland Twp. Municipal Building, 7 PM

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM

Present: Joseph Becker, Dan Bush, Tim Fazekas, Larry LaFevre, Beverly Kirby-McDonough, JoAnn Bonham Schaible, Kathy Sciarrello

Guest: Nancy Wilson

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 April 2023 meeting were approved.

Riegel Ridge - Louis XIV Table and More

Louis XIV Table - Nancy Wilson informed us that the Louis XIV table was located at the Holland Library before it was moved to Riegel Ridge. Kathy Sciarrello said she received a quote of \$800 for a glass top, including delivery, from Glass Castle. Ethan Perry from Ferndale did not respond to a request for quote. Kathy also reached out to another vendor who asked for a video of the table. Kathy supplied the video. A quote is pending.

Gymnasium Plaque – Kathy said that the plaque has been received, but not installed. Dan Bush agreed to follow up.

Photographs of Riegel Ridge Directors – Kathy showed pictures of all former Riegel Ridge directors. Also, she showed four present images, printed in black and white, of former director, Art Cyphers. Kathy asked the Commission to select a preferred picture of Mr. Cyphers. A picture of current director, Jessica Neglia, is needed for inclusion. Larry LaFevre and Dan said that the images do not need to be the same size, as they will be spread out when displayed. Also, they should be displayed in black and white (to resist fading), with black frames. Kathy agreed to order the frames.

Display Cases – The display cases still need to be filled with local artifacts. JoAnn Bonham Schaible said she plans to add some old Township maps to the cases. Larry spoke about adding an article regarding the Riegel Ridge Rams Band performing at an Eagles versus Bears football game. Joe Becker stated that the game was held in Connie Mack Stadium in Philadelphia about 1957 or 1958. (The Bears won!) JoAnn said she would check issues of the Spot-Lite newsletter for a description of the event.

Blinds – Kathy reported that Alfons Mayer will check to see if any spare blinds are available for the storage room.

Barn Survey Presentation by Carla Cielo - Follow-Up

The presentation was a success, having more than 50 attendees. Tim Fazekas uploaded a video of the presentation to Google Drive. He provided a link to this Commission via email on April 29th. The large file should be downloaded and saved to a hard drive or the cloud, but the size is about 120MB. Dan asked Larry to contact Melissa Tigar who can reach out to the Township IT person. Tim stated that he could upload the video to the Holland Township Library YouTube channel if he is granted permission.

Holland Township 150th Anniversary

Dan announced the formation of a sub-committee including Dan Bush, Beverly Kirby-McDonough, Kathy Sciarrello, Scott Wilhelm and Nancy Wilson. The first planning meeting will be scheduled one evening between May 22 and May 25 at 6:00PM at the Municipal Building.

Dan led a discussion about ideas for the 150th Anniversary including:

Vintage Baseball Jerseys – Tim received a 1961 photograph of Mr. Jack Weiss wearing a period baseball jersey. Tim recommended a manufacturer of authentic baseball jerseys, Majestic of Stockertown, PA. Reproduction jerseys will be expensive to produce, but popular. Tim also spoke of ordering T-shirts. Dan said he would like to start selling jerseys at the upcoming Community Day in September of this year. This would serve as a fundraiser for restoration of the grandstand at Riegel Ridge.

Event 1) Old-Timer Baseball Game – Dan has been in touch with the Delaware Valley Athletic Association (DVAA). They have contact with two old-fashioned baseball teams who would be interested in playing in conjunction with 2024 Community Day. Dan will lead the organization of the baseball game.

Event 2) 5K Run – Dan spoke of reinventing the Windmill Classic 5K Run to be managed by the Riegel Ridge Community Center (Jessica Neglia). Dan discussed hosting a 5K river run at O’sakame Preserve as an alternative, due to the poor condition of the windmill.

Event 3) Community Fun Day – Dan said the event will be introduced in July of this year with free admission to the Riegel Ridge pool for Holland residents and a DJ. Next year, it will include free hot dogs for all and an opportunity to interact with Township Committee members.

Event 4) Open House / Local History Day – Nancy suggested engaging Holland Seniors. They may be eager to be interviewed on video, sharing their early experiences in Holland Township. Dan added that we could reach out to the Riegelsville (PA) Library, asking if they would be willing to share Holland Township and Riegel Paper Company artifacts for display at Riegel Ridge. Dan asked if this Commission would be willing to sponsor this event. Volunteers will be needed to create a video or slide presentation. Also, “ambassadors” will be needed to guide the public. Commission members also discussed getting the schools involved.

Other Ideas and Events – Dan said he is expecting a fifth event to be hosted by the Environmental Commission. Nancy suggested a Library Day to be held at the Holland Township Library. Kathy and Tim proposed an art show and sale at Riegel Ridge featuring local artists. Kathy recommended that any original artwork should be photographed and displayed on a TV monitor with continuous looping. Dan mentioned that the support of a non-profit organization will be required to manage any cash collected. Nancy agreed to present the idea to the Women’s Club (non-profit).

Grants

Dan stated that two grants were approved by Board of County Commissioners of Hunterdon County. They will support rehabilitation of the Riegel Ridge grandstand (\$30K) and painting of the gymnasium (\$31K). Painting will commence in September.

Other Business

- **Oral History Tapes** – Larry said he found some old oral history tapes including Esther Search (Oct 1992) and Bill Moore, Sr. (Jan 2004). Kathy spoke of a handwritten history by Cora Rapp Severs. These can be used for 2024 Local History Day.
- **Upcoming Farmer’s Market Presentation** – Sunday, June 4th, 10:30AM, at the Dvoor Farm Wagon House. Dennis Bertland will speak about life and trade on the Delaware River. (Reservations not required.)

Public Comment - N/A

Show and Tell

- Vintage Riegel Ridge Rams Band patch – Larry
- Spot-Lite newsletters (donated by R. Castagna) – Kathy
- Hunt Family Tree from Spot-Lite 1938, 1939 - Kathy
- Images of two Theodore Wahl prints including “Parade” - Tim

Next Meeting: Monday, June 5th, 7:00PM

Meeting Adjourned at 8:25 PM