

WARREN COUNTY BICENTENNIAL
CULTURAL & HERITAGE ADVISORY BOARD

500 Mt. Pisgah Avenue
Oxford, NJ 07863

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
May 19, 2020

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Rapisardi opened the meeting at 5:11 p.m. and read the Open Public Meeting Notice.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Laurie Rapisardi, Jane Primerano, Ingrid Gray, Charles Fineran, Jeanette Iurato, John Metroke

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

Guests Present: Michael Roberts

Minutes: The April 21, 2020 minutes were reviewed. Mr. Fineran motioned, seconded by Ms. Gray to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Bicentennial Commemoration

July 23rd Kickoff Event – Mr. Charlton has spoken with the band and there is no definite word for another week or two from the band, but they will not likely tour this summer, as many are over 65 years old.

Ms. Gray inquired if there is another local band or group that would be willing to participate in the kickoff event, if the original band is unable.

Mr. Tierney and Mr. Austin have canceled the June lawn concert series but will revisit the later summer concerts as they get closer.

Michael Roberts suggested that bands at various locations can either live stream or pre-record a few songs and provide some historical information about each site. If pre-recorded, it can be a resource that can be utilized later as well.

Mr. Charlton said the Economic Development Committee made a 10-minute video of interviews and information that is available on the County's YouTube channel, so the option is available. Ms. Gray suggested having a drive-in event at the fairgrounds or another large site with music and fireworks. It can also be filmed or broadcast live. Fulfilling staffing and volunteer needs could potentially be an issue with the current restrictions.

Ms. Roy discussed an issue a local food vendor had with people purchasing food at his establishment and then eating in their parking lot and not social distancing. The responsibility falls on the host, so that should be kept in mind.

Mr. Fineran and Ms. Rapisardi suggest the Board wait until things settle down to start planning a kickoff event, so it doesn't get canceled again. Mr. Fineran recommended reaching out to the historic groups to try to pull that information together in the interim. Mr. Tierney suggests cancelling the July kickoff event and to periodically revisit the idea. Mr. Fineran motioned, seconded by Ms. Primerano to

cancel the July kickoff event, pending the band's anticipated cancellation and wait to schedule anything until the Board can safely resume planning. Motion carried.

Bicentennial Logo – Mr. Tierney shared some conceptual logos with group. Mr. Margulies also submitted an original design that the Board reviewed. Mr. Metroke can reach out to a co-worker at Warren County Tech School who does embroidery to see if there are any challenges with embroidering the logos. If the Board likes Mr. Margulies's logo, Ms. Gray will request him to finalize the logo and add color. The logo decision will be tabled until the June meeting.

Historical booklet – It was suggested to give each municipality parameters for what information to submit for the booklet. Ms. Gray volunteered to start compiling information from each municipality. Ms. Rosseland said some of the towns will have more history than others or some of the smaller towns and villages are no longer in existence, so the book will need to be balanced out. Ms. Gray, Ms. Primerano, and Ms. Iurato will work together to compile and review the information. Mr. Fineran suggested also working with the Morris Canal Committee.

Heritage Weekend - Ms. Rapisardi said she reached out to Sussex County Heritage Weekend, but they cannot commit to the event, given the uncertainty of group events. Any decisions regarding Heritage Weekend will be tabled for now.

County Museums and CHPP Grant

CHPP Grant - Ms. Rosseland reported that the CHPP 2020 Grant is in process. The State has agreed to provide an extension if necessary.

Shippen Manor Rehabilitation - Ms. Rosseland reported that rehabilitation of the manor is still underway.

- Lower level kitchen Dutch door and frame have been repaired without needing to be replaced with weather stripping on the lower door to help it to close and seal properly.
- Main level porch (upper drive): floors are nearly complete (need to be painted and repair to existing columns), office porch floor needs painting.
- Lower level porch (lower drive): columns mostly repaired, new flooring should be going in soon (and is primed, so it will need to be painted), and railings repaired as needed (the same for the upper level porch).
- Painting: Some of the doors, columns, railings, shutters, brackets, etc. were painted in March/April.
- Mortar: Mortar and pointing work completed.

Social Media - Ms. Rosseland has been posting a multi-part series on Facebook regarding the Changewater Murders. Ms. Rosseland also completed a three-part series on Allamuchy-Johnsonburg on Facebook last week.

Ladderback chair – Ms. Rosseland sent out before and after pictures of an 1850-era slat back chair that we had in storage. The chair was picked up in February and given to Bob Brandt, an artisan from Millbrook Village for restoration. Once the museum is opened again, Mr. Brandt will return the chair to the Manor.

Manual - Ms. Rosseland developed a manual for docents and volunteers with rules and guidelines; submitted to Mr. Tierney for review.

Hospitality Workshop - Drea Hahn, the acting Adjutant of the 2nd NJ has offered to give a free two-hour workshop on hospitality and the importance of relaying accurate information to visitors. This will occur once restrictions are lifted and we are able to meet.

Covid-19 Project Update - The deadline for submissions was extended to an indefinite date. Most of the pictures were taken by Ms. Rosseland of publicly displayed signs from different towns in the County.

Ms. Gray and Ms. Rosseland left the meeting at 6:56 pm.

Arts Grants

Assisted Living Programs - Mr. Austin said the performances for assisted living residents is on hold for now.

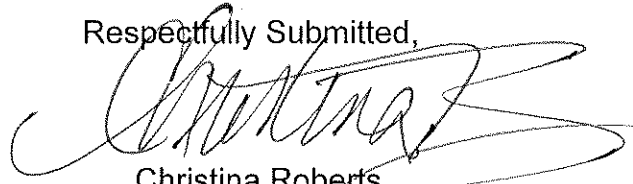
Arts Grants - The Arts grant re-grantee agreements will be sent out sent out soon.

Lawn Concert Series - Two June concerts and four July concerts have been cancelled. June and July concerts have been turned into virtual concerts.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for June 16, 2020 at 5:00 pm via WebEx.

Adjournment: Mr. Fineran motioned, seconded by Ms. Iurato to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christina Roberts', written in a cursive style with a large flourish at the end.

Christina Roberts
Administrative Clerk