

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

500 Mt. Pisgah Avenue  
Oxford, NJ 07863

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF  
June 21, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Ms. Rapisardi opened the meeting at 5:01 p.m. and read the Open Public Meeting Notice and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Members Present:** Laurie Rapisardi, Charles Fineran (left at 6 :02 p.m.), Jane Primerano, Rick Gardner

**Staff Present:** Corey Tierney, Gina Rosseland, Dennis Austin (in at 5:16 PM), Jennifer Correa-Kruegel,

**Minutes:** The April 5, 2022 minutes were reviewed. Mr. Fineran motioned to approve the meeting minutes. Ms. Primerano seconded. Minutes approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENT- none**

**CORRESPONDENCE- none**

**OLD BUSINESS**

**BOOK:**

Ms. Rosseland inquired if the book would still be done in its entirety or if there were going to be any changes to the type of book being done.

Ms. Primerano said that there was a suggestion for a change in the type of book but nothing was acted on. It was a suggestion by Ms. Iurato via email suggesting it be primarily photographs instead of trying to solicit history from the individual towns. Ms. Primerano said it was worth looking into.

Mr. Fineran inquired if there was a way to have a section of photos if certain towns want to add more to their section to give options.

Mr. Gardner inquired if they would still do outreach to the towns.

Mr. Tierney said yes and that questions were prepared to be sent out to the towns. Still worthwhile to reach out to them.

Mr. Fineran asked about board members who have been assigned to reach out to the specific towns.

Ms. Rosseland suggested making use of a book that she has a Shippen Manor that is very descriptive. Additionally, there was information on the website.

Discussion was had about various aspects of Warren County that should be included in the book.

Mr. Tierney suggested that the next step is to think about how to contact and engage the right people in the municipalities and try to get their feedback. Also, based on the content and level of the participation we get, we could simply add it to the website. The book is more complex because of the editing and organizing that will be required for it. The board might want to reevaluate depending on what they receive as far as content from the municipalities. Mr. Tierney expressed concern about not having the staff or volunteers to complete a book. Possibly make it more of an introductory.

Mr. Gardner inquired as to how many pages each town was getting.

Ms. Rosseland said it was 8 pages for each town with 22 towns.

Mr. Tierney said the cost of the book would depend on the quality and the timeframe to work through whatever content is provided.

Mr. Fineran suggested links to the website.

Ms. Rosseland suggested making it a PDF on the site and just highlights on the website if we want to sell the books.

Mr. Tierney is concerned that many of the historical groups are thin and won't have the support.

Ms. Primerano agreed that the first step that the first step is to reach out to municipalities.

Ms. Rosseland said she would update the letter and send it to the board to review. She also reminded everyone of their assigned municipalities.

The Board discussed the need to replace the board members who recently resigned. They will need more volunteers to aid in event planning. Suggestions were made for potential members.

### **WEBSITE:**

Ms. Rosseland reported that the website was going well and she has been making use of QR codes to post the times for tours and schedule of events. She also has put QR codes on the Oxford Furnace Panel and Warren200 on publications. She is not aware of a counter on the website to determine how many people are visiting exactly and inquired with IT on how to locate that information.

### **HISTORIC MARKERS:**

Ms. Rosseland reported that has had a couple of groups who said they were interested but otherwise she has not heard from many people. People have commented that the grant is too small.

Ms. Rapisardi inquired as to when the letters went out and Ms. Rosseland said it was about a month ago.

Ms. Rosseland said some historic committees have disbanded.

### **EVENTS:**

Mr. Tierney agreed that due to lack of volunteers that holding an event in July might be too short of turnaround time. He suggested moving the event to August or September.

Ms. Primerano said that it looks like there will be a Heritage Day in Belvidere possibly the second weekend in September and see if they could piggyback off them for their event and have a table there.

Ms. Rosseland will try and reach out to someone in that group because they have recently started to rebuild the Belvidere Historic Commission to participate in their event.

Ms. Rapisardi agreed it was something more doable than trying to do their own event on short notice.

Ms. Rosseland will try to find out for certain and see if they need to plan another meeting before the next meeting to plan more if they need to have an event in September.

Ms. Rosseland also recommended that they have a table at her or Dennis's events.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **NOTES FROM GINA ROSSELAND:**

Ms. Rosseland reviewed the notes that were sent out prior to the meeting and went over the highlighted parts. One area she requested a motion regarding donations. She would like Board approval unconditional gift items to more relevant historic sites that can make better use of the tools or items. Ms. Rapisardi motioned to approve gift items. Ms. Primerano seconded.

Mr. Gardner expressed interest in agricultural artifacts on behalf of the Ag Board who has plans to create a museum. Ms. Rosseland has a number of items that might be of use.

Ms. Rosseland requested assistance for the Shippen Manor July 3 event.

Ms. Rapisardi requested that Ms. Rosseland send out the events schedule to everyone again to see where they could be available to help.

Additionally, under the CHPP Grant where it reads: "I would like to adjust the grant funding based on the amount allotted and determining the number of groups applying as needed. The state has no minimum or maximum for grant monies. We need to set a minimum/maximum with the ability to

increase/decrease monies for Round 2 pending available funds from Round 1.” Ms. Primerano motioned adjust the grant funding. Mr. Fineran seconded.

**NOTES FROM DENNIS AUSTIN:**

Mr. Austin reported that after a two year hiatus, the Senior Art Show was back up and running. The reception for the artists was held on June 17. It was a very good response with 14 artists for this show. It will be up until the beginning of September.

This past Sunday we had our first concert, The Lost Ramblers with about 174 people in attendance and 10 dogs. The band brought a guest fiddle player, Tony DeMarco. One of the best fiddlers around.

Ms. Rapisardi inquired if she was reading the schedule correctly and if there were going to be two events on July 3. Mr. Austin replied that its uncertain because of issues with their paperwork. Tentatively, yes from 6-8.

Ms. Rapisardi commented that the Hackettstown BID online merchandise store through Spread Shirt is going really well. Easy to work with and made some cash already. She will send everyone an email to see what is offered and if the Bicentennial Cultural and Heritage Board would like to create something similar.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, Ms. Rapisardi motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:12 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Correa-Kruegel  
Community Service Aide