

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

500 Mt. Pisgah Avenue
Oxford, NJ 07863

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
September 20, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Rapisardi opened the meeting at 5:04 p.m. and read the Open Public Meeting Notice and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Laurie Rapisardi, Charles Fineran, Jane Primerano (left at 6:31), Rick Gardner (arrived at 5:15 PM)

Staff Present: Corey Tierney, Gina Rosseland, Dennis Austin, Jennifer Correa-Kruegel

Minutes: The August 16, 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. Rapisardi wanted to revisit the idea that Ms. Rosseland had about creating a smaller book. Ms. Rosseland suggested it be a driving tour book with websites and phone numbers that could also be in the form of a CD, app or by way of making a phone call. Ms. Primerano was amendable to that as long as all the municipalities are still contacted and have a say in what their town represents. Ms. Rapisardi agreed it would be a more manageable undertaking. She suggested that they provide links to other history books that were written in the area.

There was discussion on the pros and cons of doing the book on a smaller scale. Ms. Primerano expressed concerns about there being gaps in the historical information presented. Ms. Rosseland advised that information can be easily updated online.

Mr. Fineran made a formal motion that the book be made into an electronic, traveling concept with an additional paper option so the public has access which will be easier to update online as new information is acquired. Ms. Primerano seconded. All in favor.

WEBSITE:

Ms. Rosseland reported that she is working on going through 1000 + Second Presbyterian Church Bulletins but it is not public yet. She is trying to use those bulletins that talk about local history with the bulletin, the date, and the summary. She will upload them to the website when she is done. She has not completed the genealogy as the bulletins have taken priority.

Ms. Primerano inquired about old event bulletins. Ms. Rosseland will keep an eye out for them and make them available.

HISTORIC MARKERS:

Mr. Fineran inquired on behalf of Allamuchy about the historic markers and requested an extension of the application. They would like to put up more interpretative signs.

Ms. Rosseland mentioned that many of the municipalities felt the grant award was not enough money. It was suggested that more money be given to municipalities that did apply. Instead it was determined to extend the due dates and allow each municipality an opportunity to apply once.

Mr. Tierney recommended to Mr. Fineran that the CHPP grant would be a better fit for interpretative signs or that current signs could be updated under the Historic Markers grant.

Ms. Primerano motioned to extend the deadline for the Historic Markers grant by one year, October 28, 2023. Mr. Gardner seconded. Motion passed. Ms. Rosseland will advise the municipalities of the extension.

SEPTEMBER EVENT:

Mr. Tierney debriefed the September 1st kickoff event at Garrett Park. ~~He t~~Thought it went well with a good turnout and great weather. Prior to the meeting, Mr. Charlton inquired if we wanted to do the event again, same time next year, or change the day. Mr. Tierney said that some of the online merchandise was purchased for display at the event. Some people commented they were not comfortable using the QR code to make purchases. He recommended that there be some merchandise for sale at future events. Mr. Tierney also recommended that they purchase a branded tent and table cloth for the board to advertise better and shirts for the board members.

Ms. Primerano recommended that they purchase or rent a sound system that is better. Mr. Tierney said he would inquire with Mr. Charlton about sound systems in the county or whom to rent from.

The discussion was made regarding when to do the event again. Ms. Primerano felt the event was very early but understood it was because of the time of year. Ms. Rapisardi recommended having it earlier in the summer and time it for later in the day. Mr. Tierney requested that ~~the band's set be shortened so they do not have to~~enough time be left to clean up ~~when it is too~~before dark. Mr. Fineran commented that he received good discussions at his table and hoped the other tables had that as well.

Mr. Gardner inquired as to the approximate number of the public that came out. Ms. Rapisardi thinks about 200 people. Mr. Fineran inquired as to how the church did in food sales. Ms. Rapisardi said they did very well.

Mr. Gardner motioned to move forward with another concert next year with a date to be determined. Ms. Primerano seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Ms. Rapisardi recommended dark blue colors for the tent and table cloth with the logo in white. Same for the shirts. The other board members expressed agreement and made no objections.

PRESENTATION BY RUTH A. HUNTINGTON, DAR

Ms. Huntington and Ms. Higgins, representing the Daughters of the American Revolution, reported on events they were doing for the 250th anniversary beginning Spring of 2025 using the Square in Belvidere. They would like to collaborate and support the Bicentennial Cultural and Heritage board as their mission is to provide service to the community.

NOTES FROM GINA ROSSELAND:

Ms. Rosseland reviewed the notes that were sent out prior to the meeting and went over the highlighted parts.

Ms. Rosseland discussed cannonballs she found stored acquired at the Manor. She has contacted the Weaponry and Armory at West Point to determine if they are revolutionary war cannonballs. Ms. Primerano recommended contacting the Picatinny Arsenal Museum.

Ms. Rosseland reminded the board about the Celebrate the Furnace event on October 2. She has invited the County Commissioners and will have the Colonial Musketeers and First Aid Squad in attendance.

Ms. Rosseland has a new volunteer with good experience. She is hopeful to have enough volunteers to rotate through them in the future to give them more of a break.

NOTES FROM DENNIS AUSTIN:

Mr. Austin delivered the County Senior Art Show winners to the state art show. There were 2 professional and 6 amateur works.

Mr. Austin reported on the final numbers for the Concert Series 2022 with 2211 attendees and 69.5 dogs.

September 23, 24, and 25 is the Community College Balloon Festival providing funding and artists. They have already sold out of all the balloon rides.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Rapisardi revisited the discussion of the next event Christmas tree event. Mr. Tierney said they were looking at the second weekend on December 10. Mr. Tierney has concerns about the ball and burlap idea due to logistics in caring for them and transporting them. There are pros and cons but if we go forward with the ball and burlap, then we would need to do a much smaller tree. The suggested location was at the Farmer's Fairgrounds. He will communicate with Art and the Commissioners.

Ms. Rapisardi asked if Commissioner Ciesla could attend the next meeting to work out what exactly they are looking to do. Mr. Tierney said he would reach out to her and ask her to attend the next meeting.

Mr. Gardner feels confident that the ball and burlap can work. We would need to provide the municipalities with a metal pot for some type of storage.

Adjournment: There being no further business, Ms. Rapisardi motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Correa-Kruegel
Community Service Aide