

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

500 Mt. Pisgah Avenue  
Oxford, NJ 07863

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF  
March 21, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Ms. Rapisardi called the meeting to order at 5:04 PM

**ROLL CALL:**

**Members Present:** Laurie Rapisardi, Charles Fineran, Jane Primerano (left at 6 :15 PM), Mark Young

**Staff Present:** Corey Tierney, Gina Rosseland, Jennifer Correa-Kruegel, Commissioner Director Lori Ciesla (arrived at 5:16 PM)

**Public:** Karin White

**Minutes:** The February 21, 2023 minutes were reviewed. Mr. Fineran motioned to approve the meeting minutes. Ms. Primerano seconded. Minutes approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENT- none**

**CORRESPONDENCE-** Ms. Rosseland sent out information regarding the 80 Eastbound Retaining Wall Replacement Project Section. No action is needed at this time.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**BOOK:**

None to report.

**WEBSITE:**

Ms. Rosseland updates as needed.

**HISTORIC MARKERS:**

Ms. Rosseland has not heard anything back so she will send out reminders that the due date was changed to August. There were a couple of interested townships. One group was carried over to this round. Hope is working on their sign and they have until the end of the year to get the signs up to be viewed.

Mr. Young inquired if there was a list of structures in each of the townships that are eligible for a historic marker. Ms. Rosseland recommended the national registry online. She will forward the information to the board.

Mr. Young requested that they be copied on the reminder emails sent out.

**OUTREACH EVENTS:**

Mr. Tierney reported on one of the handouts that included the dates and times for the outreach meetings in April. Mr. Young inquired about refreshments. Ms. Rosseland made the arrangements with the libraries and verified that food and non-alcoholic drinks are permitted. Mr. Tierney explained that his office can coordinate with the libraries as needed. Ms. Rapisardi inquired if people had

RSVP'd. Ms. Rosseland had a list of those that have responded but will update as it gets closer to the event and after reminder emails are sent out. Mr. Tierney also said that he spoke with Mr. Charlton and they will do a push for the event on the website and Facebook. Mr. Fineran and Ms. Rosseland have pictures for the presentation they will be doing for the meetings. Mr. Tierney offered to coordinate handouts and the presentation with Ms. Rapisardi.

Mr. Tierney also reviewed the meeting that Commissioner Ciesla, Ms. Rapisardi, Mr. Charlton, and he had with an event planner. They created a tentative calendar of county-led events. Ms. Rosseland also put together a list of countywide events the board may want to participate in, distinguishing between what the board might want to take the lead on and what the board might want to simply set up a table at.

The first county-led event will be the summer concert at Garrett Wall Park starting at 2 PM on Saturday July 22, 2023. Mr. Charlton sent a memo with some questions regarding the summer concert and inquired if there was anything different that they wanted to have at the event since they have more lead-time than last year. Mr. Tierney proposed renting tents for the band and vendors for that event and the board agreed. The board discussed who to invite and vendors to have. They decided on including the bubble-guy, balloon person, temporary tattoos, an ice cream truck. The Board requested that lawn signs be ordered to advertise the event and provide them to all municipalities.

Commissioner Ciesla spoke about the event following the July 22 concert. It will be a "Roaring Twenties" Centennial Gala in October or November at Rutherford Hall. Commissioner Ciesla suggested a subcommittee and Ms. Rapisardi and Ms. Primerano volunteered. A price of \$150 per person was suggested due to the size of the venue and time of year.

The next event discussed was the Municipal Holiday Tree Decorating Competition. The County will give each municipality a stipend to get the tree and ornaments. Planning should start in the summer and get them to agree in advance. Commissioner Ciesla would like to get the county college involved to take pictures and show the trees virtually.

Moving on to events happening in 2024, the Board is looking ahead to do another Gala fundraiser, this time at David's Country Inn. This will happen during the week due to it being wedding season in June. There will be another summer concert planned in July and a Warren County Winter Wonderland planed in December.

The Board discussed having a Bicentennial Community Day in the Summer of 2025 at the county college, to be undertaken with the help of a hired professional event planner. Discussion was had for possibly a parade and ending with a Thank You event.

Ms. Rosseland reviewed the list of municipal events and stressed that any BCHAB volunteers participating have activities or something for the kids in attendance.

Ms. Rosseland reviewed her notes that were distributed before the meeting. Ms. Primerano motioned to accept the donation of swords. Mr. Fineran seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

Mr. Austin requested a vote on the list of regrantees he sent out prior to the meeting. Ms. Rapisardi motioned to award the regrantees. Mr. Young seconded. Abstentions: Arts at St. Luke's & St. Mary's- Ms. Primerano abstained; Rutherford Hall Allamuchy BOE- Ms. Rapisardi, Mr. Fineran abstained; Warren County Community Singers- Ms. Primerano abstained. All in favor. Motion passed.

Mr. Tierney requested a board member to represent the Bicentennial Cultural and Heritage for the Municipal and Charitable Conservancy Trust that makes awards for open space or historic projects. It runs typically July through November on the first Monday of each month. Mr. Young volunteered. Mr.

Fineran motioned that Mr. Young represent the Bicentennial Cultural and Heritage Board at the Municipal and Charitable Conservancy Trust meetings. Ms. Rapisardi seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

Discussion was had about designs for merchandise such as stickers, wooden nickels, patches, tattoos, ornaments, postcard series, passport booklet, and more.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, the next meeting is April 18, 2023, Mr. Young motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Fineran seconded at 6:33 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Correa-Kruegel  
Community Service Aide