

**HISTORIC COMMISSION
MINUTES**

OCTOBER 28, 2015

8:10 p.m.

<u>ATTENDANCE:</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
<u>Phyllis Angelo</u>	X	
<u>Mary Donohue</u>	X	
<u>Judi Sussman</u>		X
<u>Sara Theresa Bartelloni</u>	X	
<u>Mike Ginch</u>	X	
<u>Joan Kristan</u>	X	
<u>Eric Model</u>	X	
<u>Liaison Ellen Busteed</u>		X

AUDIENCE: Kevin Wright

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Stated she is not sure how the Council wants the Commission to proceed since the Historic Component to the Master Plan is completed. Advised putting the project on the NJ Digital Highway was the requirement of the Grant, however it has been difficult.

SARA BARTELLONI: Advised they are "good to go." Stated the Digital Highway personnel were in flux state as they are updating their website and were short on personnel. Advised Daragh is sending a flash drive of the data base.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Indicated the Commission only used up half of the Grant money, as it was a 6 month project but they were able to do it in 3 months. Advised they completed color slides, dvds, historic documents, historic folders, postcards and photographs and Alan was working on whether they need to return the rest of the Grant money. Stated they only used \$9,587.13 of the \$19,000 of the Grant monies.

MIKE GINCH: Questioned that since some of the achievable materials were eligible for the Grant money, why not buy some more materials after finding out what is allowed under the Grant and buy a reasonable amount of the materials.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Stated she can speak to George, however, he purchased a lot of materials.

ERIC MODEL: Questioned that once everything is in place, and if the materials you want to purchase are going to be used for Stage 2 or 3 of the project, why not commit dollars for that purchase.

SARA BARTELLONI: Advised they should have purchased the materials by September 30, 2015.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Stated they have budgeted money for this project through the end of December. Questioned if they would like her to contact Trenton and ask if they can still purchase supplies.

SARA BARTELLONI: Indicated you can advise them you did not use all the money on personnel, however you are short on supplies and would like to use the money for supplies to continue with the project.

ERIC MODEL: Advised it was a learning lesson.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Questioned what needs to be done to finish the NJ Digital Highway.

SARA BARTELLONI: Stated the drop box was taking too much time to upload a file, however she was advised to try Google which was must faster. Indicated they have most of the data and files and also she removed some things, such as the interviews and music, as they thought it was a copyright issue. Stated Mary, Joan and Mike need to sign off on her interview.

MIKE GINCH: Stated that may not be a bad idea to have the individuals sign off on their interviews.

SARA BARTELLONI: Advised Mr. Carter said going forward to have the individuals who are donating items to sign off on them.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Stated Mr. Carter wants to know if he should continue with tiffs or jpegs, as he wants to do one unified way.

MIKE GINCH: Advised jpeg is a compressed format, tiffs is an uncompressed format but the photograph is not changed in anyway. Stated even through you do not see a difference to the naked eye, he suggests going with tiffs.

SARA BARTELLONI: Stated the NJ Digital Highway is going to take the tiffs and turn them into pdfs and jpegs.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Advised the remainder of the budget is \$2,290 left for the Archivist.

MIKE GINCH: Suggested not to let anyone scan a single photograph as he will do that.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Questioned what Mr. Carter would do then?

MIKE GINCH: Stated Mr. Carter can do the archiving, and he will do the scanning, in order to save some of the money in the budget.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Advised the next meeting they need to come up with a budget for 2016 and stated there is money left for 2015 which will be spent. Questioned if anyone wants to discuss the meeting with the Library Board. Stated Daragh put in \$32,000 for a room and were receptive about having an archival room, but was not sure where they were going to put it and Daragh asked her to write a letter to the Library Board asking for a dedicated space.

MARY DONOHUE: Stated the Library Board was very receptive and pleased at what was being done.

MIKE GINCH: Stated the \$32,000 they were proposing was for a multi-purpose room, which the Commission will be excluded from, as that room would be to free up the room to use for their space.

SARA BARTELLONI: Indicated it was her understanding they were seeking money to create a room in the library to be used as a meeting space, freeing up the small room used by Mr. Carter so the Commission can have that room.

MARY DONOHUE: Advised they made it clear to the Library Board, the room to be used for archiving has to be visible for the employees in the front and they did not want that room as it is too secluded.

SARA BARTELLONI: Stated the \$32,000 room would not be used for the archiving.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Stated they need to sign an agreement with the Library for use of the room. Questioned if they are ready to ask the public for historic documents.

ERIC MODEL: Suggesting having a poster stating the Historic Commission is in existence and to let the public know where you are.

SARA BARTELLONI: Advised Councilwoman Murphy indicated putting the information on Facebook, but was concerned about getting donations and having the materials placed in the back of the Library.

MIKE GINCH: Stated he thinks you should be asking for donations now, because people tend to throw out material due to fire or death.

SARA BARTELLONI: Questioned how you want to advertise.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Stated you need to advise people who donate that the Historic Commission decides what they will keep as a lot of people bring junk.

ERIC MODEL: Stated you can ask for donations 2 or 3 times a year such as at the Library Book Sale, River Edge Day, July 4th.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Indicated an article can be placed in the Town News and Patch as well. Questioned what the advertisement should say.

MIKE GINCH: Suggested changing donations to contributions, so it does not sound like it is meant to give money.

ERIC MODEL: Stated he would do a press release indicating if you are throwing out something, the Commission is looking for some potential material that may be valuable to the history of River Edge. Suggested "your junk could be our valuable stuff."

MARY DONOHUE: Stated to give a suggestion as to what you are looking for, such as photographs or deeds.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Advised once you do an oral history, you come up with a lot of documents. Questioned if you wanted to advertise on Facebook and if the Cultural Center has an exhibit in the fall with photographs that already in possession, it may help to get people interested.

ERIC MODEL: Suggested allowing people to create their own video by bringing in photographs and telling their story.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Suggested asking Kevin to give some lectures to create some interest. Questioned if the budget for 2016 will be same as last year.

MIKE GINCH: Questioned if the Commission will be using the Town's website, the Library's website or their own website.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Indicated Daragh was not able to put the information on the Library website.

SARA BARTELLONI: Advised the reason was because it was going to be expensive, as Daragh was looking to create his own website that would have the picture, information and have the site searchable. Stated she recommended exporting the entire database as pdf.

ERIC MODEL: Stated he likes the idea of what was discussed, by using the Cultural Center as an anchor, and having the Library as a partner, which shows it is a community effort and suggested asking for participation from the Borough.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Questioned having the survey on the Library website.

SARA BARTELLONI: Stated right now she is concentrating on getting everything onto the NJ Digital Highway.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Questioned Joan regarding the oral history.

JOAN KRISTEN: Stated she has been very busy and has not had a chance to continue with the oral histories.

ERIC MODEL: Questioned if anyone knows someone who was associated with Cherry Hill Church and what became of the Church documents when it became the Community Church, as it goes back to the 1800's.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Advised the original Church was down by McDonalds.

ERIC MODEL: Questioned who took the records once the Church closed down and possibly try to find a parishioner who may know where the records are kept.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Stated she does not know. Questioned Mary on New Bridge Landing.

MARY DONOHUE: Advised the Mayor suggested PSE&G may take away their fence and a split rail fence can be put in. Stated she asked the Mayor to get an estimate of the property, as Bergen County Historical Society would be interested in purchasing the property to use as a park and ultimately put in a Grist Mill. Indicated if River Edge purchases the property, the Bergen County Historical Society can use the property as part of New Bridge Landing.

Next meeting November 18th

MEETING ENDED