



**TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**



MINUTES

APRIL 20, 2021

MAIN MEETING ROOM

Chair Steven Boshart called the April 20, 2021 West Milford Historic Preservation Commission meeting to order at 7:15 pm with a reading of the Legal Notice.

ROLL CALL

Present: Steven Boshart (Chair), Josephine Beck (Vice-Chair)
Kristen Koerner, Kerry O'Brien, Brandon Romaine
Absent: Loretta Heusser
Secretary: Tonya E. Cubby

MINUTES

A **motion** was made by Kerry O'Brien to approve the March 16, 2021 minutes, with a **second** by Jo Beck. The Minutes were **approved** by unanimous consent.

SITES

Macopin Homestead – 1299 Macopin Road

- Jo Beck reported that she witnessed several antique red sleds in a container at the 1299 Macopin Road site. There was no indication if they were put out for garbage collection or were for someone to pickup.

Reid House - 1778 Macopin Road

- There was no update on the plaque for this site.

Long Pond Ironworks

- Long Pond Ironworks – Kerry O'Brien reported that he was working on the grant for the Hewitt Church for the foundation and exterior of the building. The structural report had been submitted for review and the Historic Trust responded with comments on the report. He will be working on a grant for the restoration of the church proper.
- The Long Pond Ironworks Museum is waiting for permission from the State before they can open the building to the public.

Wallisch Homestead

- It was reported that the Wallisch Homestead held a Barn Sale the prior weekend and one will be held the upcoming weekend. Jo Beck commented that there were large crowds at the site for the first weekend event.

MISCELLANEOUS / OTHER BUSINESS

- Chair Steve Boshart commented that his wife had seen a print of the Bareford Mountains by Jasper Cropsey. The original is in the Brooklyn

Museum in New York. It was noted that the WM Museum has a copy of this print in their collection of Cropsey prints.

- The Chair distributed copies of old newspaper articles on the Ferber's and Waywayanda, and the initiative to re-introduce black bears into the area.
- HPC Meeting Cassette Tapes – 2006 to 2015 – The Commission discussed the possibility of converting meeting tapes into a digital format. Initial cost estimates from one company was \$2000. for 65 items. The Commission concurred that more research into this and additional quotes were needed. The Chair will contact a local company, WAVE Distribution, for an estimate on converting the tapes, initially from 2006 to 2011 when Jim Van Hooker was chairman of the HPC. As reported at a prior meeting, these HPC meeting recordings contain a wealth of historic information on sites, events and residents from the discussions that took place at the time. The Chair will obtain prices for searchable and non-searchable formats, including thumb drives or CD's, etc, and noted that we need to obtain quotes to effectively weigh the costs. The Commission discussed funding for the tape conversions and Kerry O'Brien remarked that he would start to look into grants for funding this project, but it would be for next year in 2022. It was also suggested at a prior meeting that the Heritage Committee may be able to assist with funding for the project if grants were not available.
- Kerry O'Brien reported that the Morris County historical organizations were conducting the Pathways to History the following weekend. The WM Museum was included in the event with the Morris County museums and historic sites a number of years ago, but the number of visitors in West Milford did not justify continued participation.
- Jo Beck inquired whether there was any information on the Morris Canal and Belchers Creek, and Mr. O'Brien noted that the Morris Canal company had rights to the creek at one time.

The following correspondence was reviewed by the Commission:

CORRESPONDENCE

- Harry Rescigno – Historic Preservation Commission resignation 03-31-21 - The Commissioners signed the letter thanking Harry Rescigno for his many years of service to the West Milford community as a member of the HPC.

ADJOURNMENT

- Chair Steven Boshart advised that the next regular meeting of the West Milford Historic Preservation Commission was scheduled for May 18, 2021. With no further business to discuss, the meeting **adjourned** at 8:00 pm on a **motion** by Kerry O'Brien with a **second** by Kristen Koerner.

Approved: May 18, 2021

Respectfully submitted by

Tonya E. Cubby, Secretary