

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

500 Mt. Pisgah Avenue  
Oxford, NJ 07863

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON  
APRIL 15, 2025**

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Laurie Rapisardi, Charles Fineran, Mark Young, Karin White, and Jane Primerano (arrived at 5:10 PM)

**Members Absent:** Richard Gardner

**Staff Present:** Corey Tierney, Gina Rosseland, and Kim Barnes

**Staff Absent:** Commissioner Lori Ciesla and Art Charlton

**INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT**

Ms. Rapisardi read the opening statement.

**MINUTES**

The March 18, 2025 meeting minutes were reviewed. Mr. Fineran made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Young. Ms. White abstained. Ms. Rapisardi, Mr. Fineran, and Mr. Young voted in favor. Minutes were approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

none

**CORRESPONDENCE**

none

**OLD BUSINESS**

**BICENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION:**

- **WEBSITE** – The website is in progress. Ms. Rosseland is looking for pictures of Liberty Twp. She received ten pictures of Phillipsburg from Phillipsburg Area Historical Society. She has eight more towns to work on. The goal is to go live with it in May. (Ms. Primerano arrived at 5:10 PM.)
- **HISTORIC MARKERS** – Phillipsburg Area Historical Society said they'd think about getting a historic marker. Ms. Ina Walls has been working on a historic marker for Mansfield Twp.

**COUNTY MUSEUMS / CHPP GRANTS:**

CHPP grants are pending approval from the Board of County Commissioners. The resolution is on the agenda for the 4/23 BCC meeting.

## **ARTS PROGRAMS / LAP GRANT:**

LAP grants are pending approval from the Board of County Commissioners. The resolution is on the agenda for the 4/23 BCC meeting.

The artist reception for the senior citizen art show is on 5/16. Art will be displayed in the main hall of the Administration Building until 8/21.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION FESTIVAL [Sat. 6/28, 12pm-9pm, followed by fireworks (rain date Sun. 6/29) at WCCC]:**

The county has decided to order two large tents (40'x100') for the county departments, authors, and vendors that will be tabling the event. At this time, they will still need to bring their own table and chairs, but it is in discussion for the county to provide tables and chairs, too. Mr. Tierney shared an updated exhibitor list (not including commercial vendors).

Ms. Rapisardi spoke with representatives from Mars Wrigley, Atlantic Health, and Centenary University about participating. Atlantic Health expressed interest in sponsorship, along with tabling. Mars Wrigley will have a table and hand out candy.

Mr. Fineran reported there is an event on Wednesday, 6/18, for the Delaware River being awarded River of the Year for Pennsylvania. It will be part of the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Delaware River Sojourn. It will be held on the Pennsylvania side and there should be around 400 people in attendance. He thinks it would be good to have a table and promote the bicentennial.

The county gave approval for BCHAB to order bicentennial t-shirts to sell to the public. There was discussion of online sales that ship directly to the buyer or having the shirts on hand. No one wants to end up with a bunch of leftovers, but people are more likely to buy them on site. There was also discussion about offering the wine glasses for sale. They can also be given as thank you gift to sponsors.

BCHAB members can help with vendor setup and numbering the spaces. They can also take turns manning the BCHAB table. Explore Warren would also like to combine their table with BCHAB's.

Parking was discussed, including the additional remote locations. Help is needed to direct parking and the county would like these individuals to be at least 18 years old. There will be VIP and vendor parking passes. The weekly virtual meeting will be canceled for tomorrow, but Mr. Tierney will report at next week's virtual meeting who the county says can be reached out to for parking help.

**Musicians** - There are five bands scheduled for the main stage (26'x20'), running from 12pm-9:15pm: Maribyrd & the Wooden Nickel Band (acoustic Americana), Roulette the Band (60s/70s music), Toga Party Band (80s/90s music), We May Be Right (Billy Joel tribute band), and the Bobby Clark Band. The second stage (16'x20') is scheduled for 12pm-6pm: Pocono Dulcimer Club, Exit 12 & the Muskrat Ramblers, Coo Coo Cachoo, Jesse Bardwell & the Noble Brothers, The Three Lelicas, and Water Street (original music, Indie-Americana). There will be a slight change in schedule if the rain date is needed.

**Promotion of Event** - Ms. Rapisardi asked WRNJ if they would be onsite to do a remote broadcast and is waiting for a response. The county will be paying for an advertisement on WRNJ.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** (open)

none

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held May 20, 2025.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Fineran made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Young. All voted in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:01 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim Barnes  
Clerk, Land Preservation Dept.