

**PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION  
NOVEMBER 20, 2002  
MINUTES**

A meeting of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission was held on November 20, 2002 in the Board Room of the State Museum, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The following Commissioners were present: Chairman Janet S. Klein, Vice Chairman William A. Cornell, Dr. James Adovasio, Representative Thomas C. Corrigan, Dr. Andrea Fitting, Ms. Fran Cleaver representing Senator Edwin G. Holl, Ms. Nancy D. Kolb, Dr. John W. Lawrence, Dr. Brian C. Mitchell, Dr. LeRoy Patrick, Senator Allyson Y. Schwartz, Mr. Allen Wenger and Mr. Gary Wolfe. The following staff was present: Brent D. Glass, Executive Director; Doreen McCall, Chief Counsel; Anita Blackaby, Jean Cutler, John Robinson, Frank Suran, John Wesley, Donna Williams. Marcia Gobecht represented the Pennsylvania Heritage Society.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Klein called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 23, 2002**

Chairman Klein asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes. Representative Corrigan would like his comments concerning the search process for an executive director to be added to the minutes.

Mr. Wolfe moved that the minutes be approved, seconded by Ms. Fitting. The minutes were approved with addition of comments from Representative Corrigan (enclosed).

**IIA. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairman Klein called an Executive Session.

### **III. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Chairman Klein reported that during the Executive Session, the Commission discussed various issues concerning the executive director's position. Chairman Klein called for a motion to accept Dr. Glass's resignation as Executive Director of the Commission with regrets. Mr. Wolfe so moved, Dr. Adovasio seconded the motion. Chairman Klein asked if there was any further discussion. There was none.

Motion approved to accept Dr. Glass's resignation as Executive Director with regrets and thanks him for all his work with the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. A resolution of recognition will be prepared. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Cleaver called for a motion that the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission with leadership of the Chair form two committees. The Commission Chair would make the appointments. The first committee would evaluate possible executive search firms; the second committee would be responsible for developing a job description for the executive director position. The two committees should communicate with each other and report to the Commission members at the next Commission meeting. Ms. Kolb seconded the motion. Chairman Klein asked if there was any further discussion. There was none. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Klein announced the appointments to the Executive Search Firm Evaluation Committee: Nancy Kolb, Chair; Dr. William Cornell, Dr. Brian Mitchell, Dr. Patrick, and Senator Schwartz. The following Commissioners would serve on the Job Description Development Committee: Dr. John Lawrence, Chair; Representative Thomas Corrigan, Representative Stephen Maitland; Mr. Allen Wenger and Dr. James

Adovasio. Ms. Andrea Fitting will serve as an alternate if needed on either committee. Chairman Klein will serve as Ex-Officio on both committees.

Chairman Klein asked the Commission to select an interim executive director with approval by Governor Schweiker. The Commission recommends Mr. John Wesley to serve as interim executive director. Chairman Klein thanked Mr. Wesley for agreeing to serve as interim executive director. Chairman Klein noted that the interim executive director would not apply for the permanent position of executive director for the Commission.

Chairman Klein called for a motion to accept the appointment of Mr. John Wesley to serve as interim executive director for the Commission. Mr. Wenger so moved, Ms. Kolb seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously to approve the appointment of Mr. John Wesley as interim executive director.

Mr. Wesley thanked the Commission for having the confidence in him to serve as interim executive director. Mr. Wesley looks forward to working with the current and incoming administration. The Commission has a number of priorities in terms of the transition and what the Commission will do in the next few months. The first priority is the replacement of the executive director followed by the capitol projects and the governor elect's transition.

Chairman Klein thanked everyone for their comments and suggestions in the process of appointing an interim and permanent executive director.

## **X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

At this time Chairman Klein asked Dr. Adovasio to comment on the Programmatic Agreement between PHMC and Penn Dot. Dr. Adovasio asked Dr. Glass what the status is of the Programmatic Agreement.

Dr. Glass reported that a draft agreement is being circulated for comments. Dr. Adovasio asked what the next sequence of events is supposed to be. Ms. Cutler reported that we are in a comment period with senior staff from Federal Highways, Bureau for Historic Preservation, the Department of Transportation and Advisory Council for Historic Preservation. All comments will be incorporated and returned for a second review. Once the agencies have agreed on the Programmatic Agreement the document would be placed in the federal and state register for a 30-day comment period. At that time the Agreement can be sent out to interested parties for an additional 30-day comment period. All comments will be taken into consideration and will go back to the agencies to decide what is appropriate. A final document may be in place by late March.

Dr. Adovasio commented that the Commission seems to have a consistent opinion on the inadvisability of the Programmatic Agreement and would encourage delay in the process until a new executive director and new administration is in place. Dr. Glass does not believe there is a reason to stop discussion of the roles and responsibilities of each agency. He is certain that the new administration will pursue this initiative aggressively. Dr. Glass believes that it would be wise for the Commission to be part of the comment process in drafting the Programmatic Agreement and he would not slow down the process of comment from the public.

Chairman Klein asked at what point would signatures take place. Dr. Glass said after the Programmatic Agreement comment period.

Ms. Cleaver commented that sometimes the intentions and activities of a single administration immediately are suspicious if it is not their product. The other concern is that in a rush to finish business that we not accelerate what should be a thoughtful process. It is a difficult document and process.

Dr. Glass said that no document would be signed before the end of the administration. He agreed with Ms. Cleaver that the process should not be rushed and is not proposing that we sign any document before there is time for the comment period. Ms. Cleaver asked if the Commission is being forced to comment. Dr. Glass commented that Penn Dot could circulate the document without the Commission's approval. The Commission can refuse to comment.

Dr. Glass said the Agreement would be signed by at least four parties including: the Advisory Council, Federal Highway Administration, Penn Dot and the State Historic Preservation Office. When the document is in final form the Commission does have the option not to sign.

Ms. Cutler said that there would be a lot of public comment. We have to take everything into consideration. There are safeguards within the Agreement that state that PHMC can terminate the Agreement fairly easily.

Dr. Glass stated that a pilot project is being proposed. This is a proposed change in the relationship in the way the reviews are being done. There will be a statewide public discussion about how highway planning and cultural resource management is carried out in Pennsylvania. There is small risk in having a public discussion on the

agreement and there could be substantial benefits. We are not at the signing stage and there will not be any signing until all the public comments are received.

Chairman Klein asked that if the pilot project was successful, would we automatically move into the next step of a new arrangement with Penn Dot. Dr. Glass said it is an assumption that if this pilot project was successful over a four year time period that the next phase would expand to other districts.

Dr. Adovasio asked who makes the determination that the project is successful. Dr. Glass said the Commission, Advisory Council and Penn Dot would have a role in the determination along with public participation.

Chairman Klein suggested to Dr. Adovasio that he should be comfortable with all points of the agreement and if he is not he should discuss them with Ms. Cutler.

## **VII COMMITTEE REPORTS**

At this time Chairman Klein asked that the Commission review the Committee Reports.

### **a. Historical Marker Review Panel**

Dr. Cornell moved to approve the new members of the Historical Marker Review Panel. Dr. Adovasio seconded. Motion approved to accept the Historical Marker Review Panel (Attachment A).

### **b. Black History Advisory Committee**

Ms. Kolb moved to approve the Black History Advisory Committee Membership. Ms. Fitting seconded. Motion approved to accept the Black History Advisory Committee Membership (Attachment B).

c. Scholars in Residence Program Review Panel

Dr. Cornell moved to approve the Scholars in Residence Program Review Panel. Ms. Cleaver seconded. Motion approved to accept the Scholars in Residence Program Review Panel (Attachment C).

**VIII. COURTESY RESOLUTIONS**

Chairman Klein called for a motion to approve a retirement resolution for Senator Edwin G. Holl. Dr. Cornell so moved, seconded by Ms. Kolb. Motion approved. The following resolution was approved:

11.01.02 WHEREAS Senator Edwin G. Holl has served as a member of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission since 1993; and

WHEREAS Senator Holl has provided both wisdom and enthusiasm in advising and assisting the Commission over the past decade; and

WHEREAS Senator Holl has taken an active role in promoting the preservation of historic sites throughout the Commonwealth in particular Pottsgrove Manor, Hope Lodge, and The Highlands in Montgomery County; and

WHEREAS Senator Holl has been an innovator in generating support for the programs of the Commission with his legislative sponsorship of the *Preserve Our Heritage* license plate series, the Keystone Fund for Conservation, Parks, and Recreation, and other initiatives; and

WHEREAS Senator Holl is renowned as an artist and has generously donated one of his *Harrisburg Skyline* paintings to the State Museum of Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS Senator Holl is a true “Renaissance Man” with a vast array of experiences and interests that include history, art, music, railroading, business, antique cars, grandfather clocks and civic organizations; and

WHEREAS Senator Holl is retiring as a legislator on November 30 after forty-two years of dedicated service to the people of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Now therefore be it resolved that the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission extends its heartfelt gratitude to Senator Edwin G. Holl for his extraordinary service to the Commission and to the Commonwealth;

Be it further resolved that the Commission approves a lifetime membership in the Pennsylvania Heritage Society for Senator Holl and encourages him to maintain his participation in Commission programs and his friendship with commissioners and staff.

Ms. Cleaver thanked everyone and said if she could help anyone in any way to let her know. Dr. Glass mentioned that Ms. Cleaver was the attorney for the House that reviewed and developed the state history code.

Mr. Wolfe moved to accept the courtesy resolutions for the following: Roselle Trucco and Denise Bridge, Bureau for Historic Sites and Museums. Seconded by Dr. Cornell. The following courtesy resolutions were approved:

11.02.02 WHEREAS, Roselle Trucco has served in the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission from July 11, 1992 to November 15, 2002 as an intern in 1992, as a Clerk Typist I and II from 1993-2002; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Trucco has contributed greatly to the efficient management of the Bureau of Historic Sites and Museums through her attention to detail and her helpful manner in dealing with employees as timekeeper and leave clerk for the bureau; and

WHEREAS, through her willingness to undertake all functions needed to make the bureau run efficiently and to produce a timely response to all requests referred to her, Ms. Trucco, has been an effective and valued member of the bureau staff; and

WHEREAS, Roselle Trucco has now transferred to the Department of Community and Economic Development in order to pursue her career in state service;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission commends and thanks Roselle Trucco for her years of dedicated service and wishes her well in her continued state employment.

11.03.02 WHEREAS, Denise Cassini Bridges has been employed by the Pennsylvania Lumber Museum from March 24, 1990 thru November 29, 2002 as a Clerk Typist and,

WHEREAS, Ms. Bridges has played a vital role in maintaining operations at the Pennsylvania Lumber Museum by serving as fiscal accounting officer, timekeeper and newsletter editor involving the scheduling of both site and Associates personnel and the actual handling of funds and,

WHEREAS, Ms. Bridges has successfully introduced and maintained automated systems to all site functions and has played a pivotal role in the sites impending transition to the new Imagine PA and SAP programming and,

WHEREAS, Ms. Bridges has been instrumental in the success of site programs such as the annual Bark Peelers Conventions and has been called upon to greet the public and provide site security on a regular basis and,

WHEREAS, Ms. Bridges has resigned State employment and relocated her family

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission commends Denise Bridges for her important services to the Pennsylvania Lumber Museum and wishes her well in her future endeavors.

#### **IV. STAFF REPORTS**

Chairman Klein asked if there were any questions or comments on the staff reports. There were none.

#### **VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT ON FUTURE ACTIVITIES**

Dr. Glass combined his report with the legislative update. Dr. Glass reported that HB 2131 is on final consideration, which amends the History Code to allow the Commission to operate the State Bookstore. SB 1179 is a land transfer bill that conveys the school playground property in Ambridge to the Commission for the visitor center. The bill would also be amended to have six properties included in the legislation to transfer out of the Commission's ownership. The properties are Thomas Hughes House, Captain Phillips Ranger Memorial, Sodom Schoolhouse, Fort Augusta, Governor Printz Park and Pottsgrove Manor.

Dr. Glass reported that the renovations of the State Museum and Archives remain a high priority and urges the Commission to continue to push the new and outgoing administration to make sure the project continues as planned.

Dr. Glass congratulated Mr. Wesley on his appointment as interim executive director of the Commission. Dr. Glass commented to the Commission that there is a good leadership team among the bureau directors to work with Mr. Wesley. Dr. Glass assured the Commission that over the next few months not only will we move forward but also we will continue to thrive with the leadership of Donna Williams, Anita Blackaby, Frank Suran and Jean Cutler and supporting staff. Dr. Glass encourages the Commission to use the staff as a resource for both the executive search firm evaluation committee and the job description development committee.

Dr. Glass said that he has enjoyed working with the Commission. Chairman Klein thanked Dr. Glass for his report and wished him good luck.

## **VI. FINANCIAL REPORT**

Chairman Klein then moved on to the financial report and asked for any comments or questions. There were no comments or questions. She stated that the reports would be filed.

## **XI. NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business to discuss.

## **XII. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Klein announced that the Staff Recognition program would be held December 16 at 11 a.m. in the auditorium of the State Museum. The next Commission meeting will be held February 19, 2002 in the fifth Floor Board Room of The State Museum of Pennsylvania.

### **XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Klein called for adjournment of the meeting. Dr. Cornell so moved, Dr. Patrick seconded the motion for adjournment. Motion approved. The meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.