

**PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION
FEBRUARY 19, 2003
MINUTES**

A meeting of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission was held on February 19, 2003 in the Board Room of the State Museum, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The following Commissioners were present: Vice Chairman William A. Cornell, Dr. James Adovasio, Representative Thomas C. Corrigan, Dr. Andrea Fitting, Representative Stephen Maitland, Dr. Brian C. Mitchell, Dr. LeRoy Patrick, Ms. Jennifer Black representing Senator Allyson Y. Schwartz, Mr. Allen Wenger and Mr. Gary Wolfe. Chairman Janet S. Klein, Ms. Nancy Kolb and Senator Allyson Schwartz joined by conference call. The following staff was present: John Wesley, Interim Executive Director; Doreen McCall, Chief Counsel; Jack Leighow, Jean Cutler, Frank Suran, Diane Wallace, Donna Williams, Marilyn Levin, Ira Smith. Marcia Gobrecht represented the Pennsylvania Heritage Society. Deborah Filipi represented the Pennsylvania Federation of Museums and Historical Societies. Sue MacDonald was a guest from PennDot.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Klein called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. She congratulated Representative Stephen Maitland, Representative Thomas Corrigan, Senator Allyson Schwartz, and Mr. Gary Wolfe who have been re appointed to the Commission. She announced the appointment of Senator Jane Earll from Erie, Pennsylvania. Senator Earll has replaced Senator Edwin Holl who retired.

Chairman Klein announced that Doreen McCall will serve on the PHMC staff as Chief Counsel and Marilyn Levin will serve as Legislative Liaison for the Commission.

Chairman Klein requested that Mr. Wesley describe the handouts at everyone's places.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 20, 2002

Chairman Klein asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes. Mr. Wenger moved that the minutes be approved, seconded by Ms. Kolb. The minutes were approved.

III. REPORT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Klein commented that the Executive Session would not be held and asked Ms. Kolb to report on the Executive Search Firm Committee recommendation. Chairman Klein said she would give a report on the Draft Job Description in the absence of Dr. John Lawrence.

Ms. Kolb thanked Dr. Cornell, Dr. Mitchell, Dr. Patrick, Senator Schwartz and Chairman Klein serving as Ex-Officio for serving on the Executive Search Firm Committee. The committee reviewed five proposals submitted by search firms that were on the State System of Higher Education list. A sixth firm failed to present a proposal. The committee narrowed the proposals down to two and interviewed two remaining search firms. It was recommended by the committee that the Commission recommend to the Governor's Office that the Commission retain the services of Korn/ Ferry International. Korn/Ferry is a firm that has a national reputation with a Philadelphia office. Korn/Ferry has the experience the Commission is looking for and they are currently in the process of filling a job at the Atlanta Historical Society. Ms. Kolb said before we can go ahead and enter into a contract, the Commission needs the approval of the Governor's Office.

Ms. Kolb made a motion to recommend to the Governor's Office that the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission hire Korn/ Ferry International to assist it with the Executive Director search. Dr. Patrick seconded the motion. The following motion carried unanimously to approve the recommendation of Korn/ Ferry to the Governor's Office.

02.01.03 WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) has evaluated proposals from five professional executive search firms; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Search Firm Evaluation Committee (Evaluation Committee) narrowed the search to two firms; and

WHEREAS, the Evaluation Committee recommended to PHMC that it hire Korn/Ferry International to assist it with its Executive Director search; and

WHEREAS, PHMC approved the recommendation of the Evaluation Committee.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission recommends to the Governor that PHMC hire Korn/Ferry International to assist it with its Executive Director search.

Chairman Klein suggested the Commission indicate to the Governor that we are functioning well under the leadership of the Interim Executive Director, John Wesley. There is no immediate need to rush into decisions regarding the search for an executive director and updating the job description. The Commission also recommends to the Governor, Korn/Ferry will assist the Commission in preparing an update job description of Executive Director.

Chairman Klein asked Mr. Wesley to setup an appointment for her to meet with the Governor's Office staff to discuss this issue.

Chairman Klein reported on the Draft Job Description in the absence of Dr. John Lawrence, Chairman of the Job Description Committee. A copy was distributed to everyone (Attachment A). The committee had met and agreed unanimously that the draft

job description would be submitted to the Governor for approval. Members were: Dr. John Lawrence, Chairman; Mr. Wenger, Mr. Wolfe, Rep. Corrigan and Maitland and Chairman Klein, Ex-Officio.

Ms. Kolb expressed her concern that the role of State Historic Preservation Officer is not included in the current draft. The Commission should express its desire that the role of SHPO be included in the job description for Executive Director.

Chairman Klein said that this role is included on the Commission organization chart under the Executive Director position.

Ms. Kolb remarked that the job description should state pending approval of the Governor, the Executive Director of the Commission serves as the SHPO. Senator Schwartz agreed that the SHPO is an important part of the director's function and should be included in the job description.

Dr. Mitchell called for a motion to table the Draft Job Description, seconded by Mr. Wenger. Motion approved to table the Draft Job Description for discussion at a future Commission meeting.

Mr. Wenger suggested that the Commissioners review the draft. Chairman Klein requested that comments should be submitted to Mr. Wesley by February 25, 2003.

IV. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Klein thanked Mr. Wesley for his work as Interim Executive Director of the Commission.

V. STAFF REPORT'S

At this time Chairman Klein asked if there were any comments on the Staff Reports.

Chairman Klein mentioned that Representative Maitland was one of the PHMC participants in the Policy Partners meeting; he had welcomed the attendees and described his role as a PHMC Commissioner and described the Historical Marker Program that he chairs.

VI. INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Wesley reported that John Robinson, Press Secretary is in the hospital and will undergo gall bladder surgery. Mr. Wesley said he will send a card from the Commission.

Dr. Patrick's lecture on the exhibit "Testing the Waters: Integrating Pittsburgh's Public Pools" has been rescheduled for March 19th at 1pm.

Mr. Wesley reported that the second phase design funds have been released for the State Museum and Archives renovation project.

The Commission participated in the Inauguration ceremonies for Governor Edward Rendell. Mr. Wesley thanked the Exhibits Division Program, State Museum and the Division of History, Archives and History for their work on the 10 historic markers that were used for decorations during the Inaugural Ball at the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex. A small exhibit commemorating Governor Edward Rendell's campaign and election is on display in the State Museum.

Mr. Wesley thanked Donna Williams and the Bureau of Historic Sites and Museums for coordinating 20 re-actors who mingled through the Inaugural festivities in costume. He also thanked the Associate Groups for providing table favors.

Mr. Wesley commented that Frank Beal, former Commission passed away February 16. Mr. Wesley will draft a resolution for Mr. Beal's family.

VII. FINANCIAL REPORT

Chairman Klein asked for any comments or questions on the Financial Report. There were no comments or questions. She stated that the reports would be filed.

A. MAJOR MAINTENANCE PLAN 2003 – 2005

Chairman Klein called for a motion to accept the Major Maintenance Plan 2003 – 2005. Ms. Fitting so moved, Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously to approve the Major Maintenance Plan 2003 – 2005 (Attachment B).

Dr. Patrick remarked that on the PHMC Capital Project Priority List (February 2003) on page 7, there is about \$800,000 worth of release of original equipment. Would the reduction affect these projects?

Mr. Wesley reported that it would not affect directly these projects. With the budget crises, it's more than likely going to have an impact on the Governor releasing Capital Funds. Indirectly, it will have an impact.

Ms. Kolb asked how the reduction affects the Keystone Grant Program. Mr. Smith reported that reduction is 17.5 % for 2002-03 year. (There was some difference noted in two percentages reported and the correct figure is 17.5%.) Ms. Kolb expressed her concern that the hope that we can be consistent in the way we reduce our programs with the grants program.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Grants Committee – Certified Local Government Grants Recommendations

Mr. Smith reported on the list of Certified Local Government Applications FY 2003. Each year the Commission receives a grant from the Department on Interior which supports the Historic Preservation Program ranging from \$850,000 to \$1,200,000. This

year we are expecting to receive approximately \$1,000,000. We are required by law to give 10% to the Certified Local Governments.

The application list that was mailed to the Commissioners represents 10 applicants requesting \$123,018. We are asking the Commission to approve the priority list as is and when we determine the amount of money available we will distribute funds in rank order.

Chairman Klein asked if the Commission normally funds the full amount requested. Mr. Smith reported that we try to fund the full amount requested.

Chairman Klein called for a motion to approve the Certified Local Government Applications. Ms. Kolb so moved, Dr. Mitchell seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously to approve the Certified Local Government Applications (ATTACHMENT C).

B. Heritage Week/Charter Day Committee

Chairman Klein asked Diane Wallace and Dr. Cornell for a report on Heritage Week/Charter Day program. Ms. Wallace briefly reviewed the program activities. The Heritage Week poster was mailed to approximately 3,500 institutions, with the help from Marilyn Levin, it was distributed to the Members of the General Assembly. This year's theme is dedicated to the celebration of the centennial of the Pennsylvania State Archives. A historical marker will be unveiled commemorating the 100th anniversary of the PA State Archives.

Family Heritage afternoon will be held March 9th. The following events will take place on March 10th: Legislative Breakfast, 8 a.m.; marker dedication ceremony and ribbon cutting for the charter exhibit, 9 a.m.; Penn Symposium, 10 a.m. The topic of the Penn Symposium is the state's documentary heritage. Ms. Wallace announced that V.

Chapman Smith, former New York State Archivist, now Regional Director for the National Archives in Philadelphia; Lee Stout, Pennsylvania State University and Frank Suran, Pennsylvania State Archivist will speak at the Penn Symposium.

Lunch will be provided for the Penn Ambassadors following the Penn Symposium. Ms. Wallace noted this year we have a total of 91 Penn Ambassadors appointed. The Historical and Museum Commission alumni group is invited to the luncheon. Tours of the Governor's Residence, the Capitol Building, the State Museum and State Archives will be held in the afternoon.

An invitation was mailed to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Huxley who donated the total amount needed for the preservation of documents which will be on display. In addition, invitations were mailed to Dr. Max Evans and Dr. Richard Cameron from the National Historical Publications Records Commission whose organization has donated money for the archival project.

Dr. Cornell commented that on March 10th, Charter Day, we are celebrating the anniversary of the granting of the charter.

IX. COURTESY RESOLUTIONS

Mr. Suran presented the following courtesy resolutions to Mr. Emery Wimbish, Professor Leroy T. Hopkins and Dr. Edna B. McKenzie for their participation on the Black History Advisory Committee and to Ms. Beth Hager, Ms. Jean Soderlund and Ms. Margaret Jerrido for serving on the Historical Marker Review Panel.

Chairman Klein called for a motion to approve the courtesy resolutions for the Black History Advisory Committee and the Historical Marker Review Panel.

Representative Maitland so moved, seconded by Ms. Fitting. The following resolutions were approved:

02.02.03 RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission expresses its gratitude to Beth Hager for serving on its Historical Marker Review Panel in 2001 and 2002. These panels reviewed over one-hundred-and-fifty historical marker nominations for compliance with Commission procedures and made informed and judicious recommendations to Commissioners about marker approvals. Ms. Hager's outstanding contributions to this work have helped PHMC maintain its high professional standards while commemorating and interpreting meaningful state history to an expanding public audience.

02.03.03 RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission expresses its gratitude to Jean Soderlund for serving on its Historical Marker Review Panel in 2001 and 2002. These panels reviewed over one-hundred-and-fifty historical marker nominations for compliance with Commission procedures and made informed and judicious recommendations to Commissioners about marker approvals. Ms. Soderlund's outstanding contributions to this work have helped PHMC maintain its high professional standards while commemorating and interpreting meaningful state history to an expanding public audience.

02.04.03 RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission expresses its gratitude to Margaret Jerrido for serving on its Historical Marker Review Panel in 2001 and 2002. These panels reviewed over one-hundred-and-fifty historical marker nominations for compliance with Commission procedures and made informed and judicious recommendations to Commissioners about marker approvals. Ms. Jerrido's

outstanding contributions to this work have helped PHMC maintain its high professional standards while commemorating and interpreting meaningful state history to an expanding public audience.

02.05.03 RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission expresses its gratitude to Mr. Emery Wimbish, Jr. for serving on its Black History Advisory Committee from 1996 to 2001. This committee has advocated the expansion of African American cultural awareness through increased and improved historical programming, and it has advised and assisted the Commission toward these ends during Mr. Wimbish's tenure. As a result of Mr. Wimbish's work, the PHMC has been better able to meet its mission of preserving and interpreting the history of all Pennsylvanians.

02.06.03 RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission expresses its gratitude to Professor Leroy T. Hopkins for serving on its Black History Advisory Committee from 1996 to 2001. This committee has advocated the expansion of African American cultural awareness through increased and improved historical programming, and it has advised and assisted the Commission toward these ends during Professor Hopkins's tenure. As a result of Professor Hopkins's work, the PHMC has been better able to meet its mission of preserving and interpreting the history of all Pennsylvanians.

02.07.03 RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission expresses its gratitude to Dr. Edna B. McKenzie for serving on its Black History Advisory Committee from 1996 to 2001. This committee has advocated the expansion of African American cultural awareness through increased and improved historical programming, and it has advised and assisted the Commission toward these ends during Dr. McKenzie's

tenure. As a result of Dr. McKenzie's work, the PHMC has been better able to meet its mission of preserving and interpreting the history of all Pennsylvanians.

Mr. Wesley called for a motion to approve a resolution for Mr. Frank Beal, former Commissioner. Representative Maitland so moved, seconded by Ms. Kolb. Motion approved. The following resolution was approved:

02.08.03 WHEREAS, the Commissioners and staff of PA Historical and Museum Commission recently learned of the passing of Mr. Frank S. Beal;

WHEREAS, Frank Beal was appointed on May 6, 1991 by Governor Robert P. Casey to serve as a member of the PA Commission Historical and Museum Commission;

WHEREAS, Frank Beal served faithfully as a Commission member from 1991 to 1995;

WHEREAS, Frank Beal's interest in history was shared among his many passions for serving as a public servant; and,

WHEREAS, Frank Beal was a "Friend" of the Commission and a strong advocate of the history and cultural community;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commissioners and staff of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission wish to express their sincerest and deepest sense of loss of their "Friend", Frank Beal; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commissioners and staff wish to extend to the family of Frank Beal our heartfelt sympathy.

X. STATUS REPORTS

1. Act 155

Ms. Cutler reported on the Clay and Coal Mine Subsidence Insurance Fund. This law allows for the establishment and administration of an insurance fund for structures that might be at risk from being damaged because of subsidence. Subsidence occurs when coal is extracted by mining equipment and the surface ground can drop up to 4 or 5 feet. This can damage homes, streams and ponds. Ms. Cutler believes the Commission should support this law but we do not play a role in the law.

2. Rerouting of Route 202 by PennDOT to avoid historic structures

Ms. Cutler reported that this has been an ongoing project since 1992. Route 202 is a compact area of residences and historic districts/resources. The Commission is concerned that the Route 202 project will affect the Brandywine Battlefield. There is beginning to be more public involvement. The Advisory Council for Historic Preservation would like to be a consultant. The Brandywine Battlefield Taskforce has commented and is corresponding with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. The last time the Commission commented on this project was October 2002. A public meeting of 200 participants was held in January 2003.

The Commission is currently working with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation and Federal Highways on this project.

3. Archaeology agreement with PennDOT

Mr. Wesley reported that he is working to schedule a meeting with the new Secretary of PennDOT to discuss the programmatic agreement.

4. Historic Bedford Springs Hotel Renovations

Mr. Wesley reported that the Historic Bedford Springs Hotel is a national landmark historic structure with a natural spring on the land. There has been considerable amount of interest over the years to come up with an appropriate development of the site but also to maintain the integrity of the site. The Bureau of Historic Preservation will work with the developer and members of the general assembly in furthering the development of the site.

Ms. Cutler reported that she has met with the developer recently and is working with them on how to proceed.

XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Mission Statement for Bureau for Historic Preservation

Chairman called for a motion to table the mission statement for historic preservation until the next meeting on March 19th.

Ms. Fitting suggested we add “and pre-historic” and “and archaeological associations” to the draft mission statement.

Mr. Wesley suggested that we add Ms. Fitting’s comments and refine the draft mission statement and review at our next meeting on March 19.

XII. NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Klein announced that there was a major fire at the historic Naval Home in Philadelphia. Mr. Wesley commented that Ms. Cutler and her staff are aware of the situation and are working to arrange a site visit. The Mayor of Philadelphia and the Governor’s Office are interested in seeing that the property be preserved. The

Commission holds a covenant on the property. Mr. Wesley suggested Ms. Cutler send out a copy of the covenant to the Commissioners (enclosed).

Senator Schwartz asked if the Commission has been involved in any discussions with the Naval home at this point and it was reported that we have been and until the present situation is resolved, we will continue to work towards a responsible, historically sensitive solution

Chairman Klein asked if she could join Mr. Wesley and Ms. Cutler on the site visit to the Naval home on behalf of the Commissioners. Mr. Wesley agreed.

XIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Klein announced that on March 19th at 1pm, Dr. Patrick will give a lecture on his involvement in the integration of Pittsburgh's public pools. On March 17th the launching of explorepahistory.com project is scheduled. This project uses the historical markers as the framework for an education program in cooperation with WITF in Harrisburg and WHYY in Philadelphia.

Mr. Wesley commented that the staff is excited about this project. The potential of this website offers a tremendous amount of opportunities for the Commission.

Ms. Fitting asked if the Commission was at a disadvantage for marketing this project without a marketing director and a full time press secretary. Mr. Wesley commented that Mr. Suran, Mr. Weible and Ms. Levin are working with Kathleen Pavelko of WITF. WITF will do the marketing for the project.

Ms. Filipi announced that the Pennsylvania Federation of Museums and Historical Organizations annual conference will be held at the Independence Seaport Museum in

Philadelphia on April 6 – 8, 2003. Brochures for this conference will be mailed shortly to all Commission members. This year Dr. Brent Glass will receive the President’s Award.

Chairman Klein announced that the Commission is working on the nomination forms for the Pennsylvania Founder’s Award.

Mr. Wesley wanted to state for the record that based on his seven weeks work as the acting director, he found it incomprehensible how Dr. Glass was able to balance all of the many Commission projects, work so affectively with the Governor, the General Assembly and accomplish so much. He also expressed that the Commonwealth and the Commission got a tremendous bargain given what Dr. Glass was being paid. Mr. Wesley’s comments were acknowledged by a number of Commissioners.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Klein called for adjournment of the meeting. Senator Schwartz so moved, Ms. Kolb seconded the motion for adjournment. Motion approved. The meeting adjourned at 11 a.m.