

**PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION  
MARCH 16, 2011  
MINUTES**

A meeting of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission was held on March 16, 2011 in the 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Board Room of the State Museum, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The following Commissioners were present: Chairman Wayne Spilove via conference call, Flora Becker, Cheryl McClenney-Brooker participated via conference call, Stephen Bruder represented Senator Jim Ferlo, Janet Klein, Representative Robert Matzie participated via conference call, Kathleen Pavelko, Representative Scott Petri, Casey Long represented Senator Joseph Scarnati, Michele Sellitto and Clare Zales. Andrea Bowman, from the Office of General Counsel was present as PHMC Counsel.

The following staff were present: Barbara Franco, Jean Cutler, Rhonda Newton, David Dunn, David Haury, Howard Pollman, Tom Leonard and Steve Miller. Karen Gunnison, First Lady Chief of Staff also attended.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Because Chairman Spilove was participating via conference call he asked Ms. Pavelko to chair the meeting. Ms. Pavelko called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and asked everyone to identify themselves.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 17, 2010**

Ms. Pavelko called for a motion to approve the minutes from November 17, 2010. On motion by Mrs. Klein, seconded by Ms. Becker the minutes were approved.

**III. ACTION ITEMS**

- a) CLG Grant Application Approval

Ms. Cutler reported that the Certified Local Government grants are based on funding from the National Park Service Historic Preservation Fund Grant to Pennsylvania. There are a total of 13 applications, 9 applications are recommended for funding.

Ms. Pavelko called for a motion to approve the Certified Local Government Grants. On motion by Mrs. Klein, seconded by Representative Petri the Certified Local Government Grants were approved.

b) Historic Preservation Board Members

Ms. Cutler reported that there are two new proposed members for the Pennsylvania Historic Preservation Board. Richard Burkert, Johnstown Area Heritage Association and Richard Leonari, Registered Architect.

Ms. Pavelko called for a motion to approve the recommendations to the Historic Preservation Board. On motion by Mr. Bruder, seconded by Mrs. Klein the recommendations to the Historic Preservation Board were approved.

c) Historic Marker Recommendations

Ms. Cutler reported that the Marker Review Panel met on February 25, 2010. The committee reviewed a total of 54 applications and recommend that 14 applications be approved, 4 provisionally approved and 36 unapproved. Nominations not approved may be submitted with the same subject up to three years in a row.

Ms. Pavelko called for a motion to approve the Historic Marker Recommendations. On motion by Representative Petri, seconded by Ms. Becker the Historic Marker Recommendations were approved.

Mrs. Klein is concerned about the approval of the Kennedy-Nixon Taft-Hartley Debate. PHMC Marker Staff is concerned about the description and nomination as

submitted because it does not have adequate documentation to support the marker as presented. PHMC Marker staff recommends “Provisional Approval” to address the issues.

After discussion Ms. Pavelko called for a motion to amend the motion to approve the Historic Marker Recommendations except for the Kennedy-Nixon Taft-Hartley Debate and approve the recommendations for provisional approval of nominations to include the Kennedy-Nixon Taft-Hartley Debate. On motion by Mrs. Klein, seconded by Ms. Selitto the amended motion was approved.

Nominators are asked to resubmit nominations with improvements suggested in the Panel Comments. The deadline for resubmission is June 30<sup>th</sup>. Nominators may also wait until January 5<sup>th</sup> and resubmit with all other nomination being considered in 2012.

d) Approval of loans for Governor's Residence

Mr. Dunn reported that First Lady Susan Corbet and her staff recently toured the fine arts collections area and selected a few items to be on display on the second floor of the Governor’s Residence. Mr. Dunn distributed the list of requested paintings to Commissioners and staff.

According to the MOU between PHMC and the Governor’s Residence items that are displayed in the public areas on the first floor do not need Commission approval. However items displayed on the second floor, non-public rooms require the approval of the Commission.

Ms. Pavelko called for a motion to accept the recommendation as presented for the loan of paintings to the Governor’s Residence. On motion by Representative Petri, seconded by Mrs. Klein the motion was approved.

#### IV. COURTESY RESOLUTIONS

##### a) Volunteer of the Year Awards

Ms. Pavelko called for a motion to approve the Volunteer of the Year Award Nominations for:

Linda Schuller-Anthracite Heritage Museum and Iron Furnaces Associates  
Richard Bowers and George Thorpe- Brandywine Battlefield Park Associates  
Dave Mohr-Bushy Run Battlefield Heritage Society  
John Miller-Friends of Conrad Weiser Homestead  
Donald Rhoads, Jr., and Michael Trump-Friends of Cornwall Iron Furnace  
The Greene Family-the Friends of the Daniel Boone Homestead  
Dave Cook-Friends of Drake Well Inc.  
Bryan Dunningan-Eckley Miners' Village Associates  
Jane Woodruff-Ephrata Cloister Associates  
Melanie Scott-Flagship Niagara League  
Bruce B. Rader, Ph.D.-Friends of Graeme Park  
M.J. Fischer-Friends of Hope Lodge  
Cindy Inkrote-The Friends of Joseph Priestley House  
Russell Eaton – Landis Valley Associates  
John Voss-Friends of Old Economy Village  
Jean and Pete Folk-Pennsylvania Lumber Museum Associates  
Lucille Fuller-Friends of the Pennsylvania Military Museum  
Michael Hall-The Pennsbury Society  
Chuck and Eileen Coxson-Friends of the Railroad Museum  
Roy Phillips-Historical and Genealogical Society of Somerset County  
Kevin Dermody-The Friends of the State Museum  
Rudy Blair-Friends of Washington Crossing Park

##### OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

Gloria Harris-Pennsylvania Lumber Museum Associates

Ms. Pavelko called for a motion to approve the resolutions. On motion by Ms. Becker, seconded by Mr. Bruder, the Volunteer of the Year Award Nominations were approved.

##### b) Outgoing Historic Preservation Board Members

Ms. Cutler reported that there are two outgoing Historic Preservation Board Members: Scott Standish and Jeff Kieder.

Ms. Pavelko called for a motion to approve the resolutions for the Outgoing Historic Preservation Board Members for Scott Standish and Jeff Kieder. On motion by Mrs. Klein,

seconded by Ms. Becker the resolutions for Outgoing Historic Preservation Board Members were approved.

c) Retirement Resolutions

Ms. Franco read the names of the nine individuals who retired since the November Commission Meeting: Susan Lindeman – Publication and Sales; Randolph Sweigert – Landis Valley Museum; Constance Joyce Richards – Anthracite Heritage Museum; Michele Lefvere – Historic Preservation Planner; Kirk Wilson – Press Secretary; John Zwierzyna – Industry and Technology; Beatrice Hulsburg – Community and Domestic Life; Lee Stevens – Art Collections and Dwight Lindenberger – Building Manager.

Ms. Pavelko called for a motion to approve the retirement resolutions. On motion by Mrs. Klein, seconded by Ms. Becker the retirement resolutions were approved.

Mrs. Klein asked that the Commission approve a resolution to be signed by Commissioners thanking Rhonda Cohen for her exemplary service to PHMC. Ms. Pavelko called for a motion to approve staff to draft a motion of appreciation for Rhonda Cohen. On motion by Mrs. Klein seconded by Ms. Becker motion was approved.

## V. REPORTS

a) National Register Nomination

Ms. Cutler reported the Historic Preservation Board met on February 1, 2011 to consider the following nominations for the National Register for Historic Places:

Robb Farm – Huntingdon County  
McCook Family Estate – Allegheny County  
Montrose Historic District – Susquehanna County  
Quakertown Historic District – Bucks County  
African American Churches in Philadelphia  
Tindley Temple – Philadelphia  
Marian Anderson House – Philadelphia  
Alden Villa – Lebanon County  
Wilpen Hall – Allegheny County  
Brashear, John House and Factory – Allegheny County - withdrawn due to inability to notify owners.

b) Pennsylvania Heritage Society

Rhonda Newton highlighted initiatives and different ways the Pennsylvania Heritage Society supports the Commission. Ann Barnett was hired as Merchandising Manager for the State Museum store and wholesale merchandise program of the Civil War 150<sup>th</sup> Road Show. In January, John Seitter was hired as the Civil War Project Manager working with the 21 sites that will be hosting the road show this summer. Pennsylvania Heritage Society continues to work with the State Museum to expand their membership. Pennsylvania Heritage Society is a lead historical organization in two Teaching American History applications due April 4, 2011 and is participating in several other applications, thought partnership with National Council for History Education.

Civil War road Show will preview in Harrisburg April 12-16 and then premier in Pittsburgh in May; full schedule is available at [www.pacivilwar150.com](http://www.pacivilwar150.com).

c) Presentation on Department of Education Standards Aligned Systems (SAS)

In addition to serving as PHMC Commissioner, Ms. Michelle Sellitto works with the Department of Education as Assistant Director of Teaching and Learning. The bureau is responsible for guiding school districts on what every student should know and be able to do and provide the best educational resources for teaching.

Ms. Sellitto gave a demonstration of the Standards Aligned Systems (SAS) website [www.pdesas.org](http://www.pdesas.org) to the Commission.

## VI. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Spilove reported that he is working with the Assumption Church in Philadelphia and looking forward to the Civil War Road Show preview in Harrisburg April 12-16.

## VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT

Ms. Franco gave an update on the Commission budget. The final number in GGO is 17.8 million dollars approximately 600,000 less than last year. The budget does include 8.6 million dollars in Keystone Funds but there is no money for museum support grants. We will work on a rebudget, establish how many staff we can support on that budget and then try to refill key positions. We don't have enough staff to move curatorial staff to move collections at out sites. We are contracting with the Conservation Center to be able to have professional people to pack and inventory items until we can hire people for those positions.

Ms. Franco announced that David Dunn has been named the Director of the State Museum of Pennsylvania.

Our associate groups will meet in State College on March 19<sup>th</sup> to discuss ways to build their capacity and to make sure they are professionally run and meet necessary legal requirements.

The Pennsylvania State Archives will be featured in the "Who Do You Think You Are?" series which will air March 25<sup>th</sup> at 8pm on NBC.

Ms. Franco reported on Senate Resolution 54 which directs legislative, budget and finance committees to conduct a study on museums in the commonwealth and research and evaluate how funding and resources are allocated for the commonwealth's museums.

Ms. Franco invited Commissioners to tour the renovated Archives Search Room and the new Paleontology Exhibit – Life Through Time.

## VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Location of Commission Meetings

There was discussion on moving the location of Commission Meeting to various locations throughout the state so that Commissioners could tour our historic sites and museums and meet staff. Ms. Franco noted that in addition to cost of travel expenses, we have lost attendance by Commissions and sometimes not had a quorum to conduct official business.

It was suggested that the Commission setup some travel dates for Commissioners to tour the site, meet and staff and getting to know the community.

Guy Polhemus attended today's meeting and voiced his concerns about Washington Crossing Historic Park

#### **IX. OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business to discuss at this time.

#### **X. ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Pavelko adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m.