

**PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION
NOVEMBER 7, 2012
MINUTES**

A meeting of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission was held on November 7, 2012 in the 5th Floor Board Room of the State Museum, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The following Commissioners were present: John A. Barbour participated via conference call, Karen Dougherty Buchholz participated via conference call, Susan M. Corbett, Senator Jim Ferlo participated via conference call, William V. Lewis, Representative Robert Matzie participated via conference call, Andrew E. Masich, Ann M. Moran, Representative Scott Petri, Fredrick Powell, Richard Sand participated via conference call, Katie Eckhart for Senator Joseph Scarnati and Alice Lubrecht.

The following staff were present: Richard Beard, Andrea Bowman, Jean Cutler, David Dunn, David Haury, Tom Leonard, Barry Loveland, Steve Miller, Rhonda Newton, Howard Pollman, and James Vaughan.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Masich called the meeting to order at 9am.

Minutes of September 19, 2012 – Chairman Masich called for a motion to approve the minutes from September 19, 2012. Ms. Bowman asked that the minutes reflect that she was present at the September 19, 2012 Commission Meeting. On motion by Bill Lewis, seconded by Fred Powell the September 19, 2012 minutes were approved with correction to the minutes by Ms. Bowman.

Grants for Museums – Distribution Plan – Chairman Masich updated Commissioners on the distribution plan for museum grants. Notification letters were mailed to all museums informing them of this one time opportunity for funding. Fifty-seven museums met the criteria and are being recommended to receive an award. The total amount awarded is \$1,050,000.

Chairman Masich called for approval of the Restricted General Operating Support for Qualifying Museums with Annual Operating Budgets over \$500,000 grants FY 2012-13 except the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania and Carnegie Institute. On motion by Fred Powell, seconded by Bill Lewis the Restricted General Operating Support for Qualifying Museums with Annual Operating Budgets over

\$500,000 with the exception of the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania and Carnegie Institute was approved.

Chairman Masich called for a motion to approve the grant recommendation for the Carnegie Institute. On motion by Representative Scott Petri, seconded by Bill Lewis, motion to approve the grant recommendation for the Carnegie Institute was approved. Jack Barbour and Susan Corbett abstained from voting.

Chairman Masich called for a motion to approve the grant recommendation for the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania. On motion by Representative Scott Petri, seconded by Bill Lewis, motion to approve the grant recommendation for the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania was approved. Chairman Masich abstained from voting.

Howard Pollman reported a press release announcing the awarded grants will be issued, legislators will also be notified who in their district received an award and letters will be sent to grant recipients.

Schedule of Meeting for 2013 – Jim Vaughan suggested the Commission meet in February, May, September and December of 2013. Finalized dates for the meeting will be sent to Commissioners.

Executive Director's Report

Jim Vaughan updated Commissioners and staff on the effects of Hurricane Sandy. Overall, very minor damage was reported from our historic sites and museums. Damage includes: trees down at Anthracite, Brandywine, Daniel Boone, Drake Well, Ephrata, Graeme Park, Pennsbury Manor and Washington Crossing. Both Pennsbury Manor and Washington Crossing were closed because the power was out.

Jim Vaughan reported that a make safe inspection was completed November 6, 2012 on the exterior cladding of the State Museum and Archives buildings. A formal report will be submitted at a later time.

PHMC Budget – Tom Leonard gave a report to Commissioners on the 2013-2014 Budget Request, which includes an increase of 19 positions, retain current staff and absorbs economic increases to support operations.

Jim Vaughan met with Governor Tom Corbett and his chief of staff to discuss why the Commission should receive an increase in our budget and our goals to accomplish our mission. Three key components include: Reconfigure our relationship with PHMC historic sites and museums, reprioritize state museum and establish an Office of Private Investment that includes fundraising staff. The long term future of the Commission is going to be based on a good fundraising program.

Capital Budget Requests – Barry Loveland reported to the Commission the Capital Project Priorities for Release for FY 2012 – 2013. A meeting was held with the Governor’s Budget Office and Department of General Services to present our request for priorities for release of capital projects that are already authorized by the legislature but have not yet been released for design and construction. Currently, we have over 300 million dollars worth of authorized capital projects waiting to be released. Our request for this current FY 2012 – 2013 is about 15 million dollars.

Projects include: Daniel Boone Homestead, Upgrade sewage treatment and other infrastructure including HVAC systems with geothermal systems and other energy-saving equipment; State Museum of PA, Infrastructure Upgrades and Renovation; Pennsbury Manor, rehabilitate up to 23 buildings and site development of infrastructure throughout the site and upgrade HVAC systems with geothermal systems and other energy-saving equipment.

Chairman Masich asked how it is determined the amount money spent at a site. Mr. Vaughan reported that there is a long list of capital projects and money spent is based on critical need. Barry Loveland and his staff examine sites with critical projects and determine how many projects they can manage. Senator Ferlo asked if there were condition reports on sites by legislative district, if not it is something we should consider.

Historic Sites and Museums – Bill Lewis thanked everyone for their participation at recent historic marker dedications. Two new members appointed to the marker selection committee are: Dr. John Hepp, from Wilkes University Wilkes-Barre, and Ms. V. Chapman Smith, from the National Archives, Philadelphia Office.

Placed Properties - Steve Miller gave an executive summary of the significant changes in the bureau since the last Commission Meeting. The Customs and Cashiers House are now completely out of the bureau. The Judson House, Fort LeBoeuf and Washington Monument Park in Waterford were not able to submit their appraisals to the Department of General Services on time. Morton Homestead was taken over by the Borough of Prospect Park through a 99 year lease. Local legislators are committing to the movement of French Azilum, Old Mill Village and recently David Bradford House. Tuscarora Academy and McCoy House declined the opportunity for transfer during site visits. Temporary assignments have been issued to reduce any increase in the complement until we see the FY 13/14 budget.

Sculpture and Monuments Policy – Steve Miller is recommending for approval the Policy for Statues and Monuments. This policy will assist us with well intended citizens who are interested in placing statues and monuments at our facilities. Any proposed project offered must follow the PHMC's Collections Policy. The Commission is authorized by the PA History Code to regulate the policy.

Chairman Masich called for a motion to approve the Policy for Statues and Monuments as presented. On motion by Bill Lewis, seconded by Fred Powell the Policy for Statues and Monuments was approved as presented. Representative Scott Petri abstained from voting.

Intellectual Property, Site and Collection Photography and Use of Photos Guidelines – Steve Miller reported that in the past there has been a good faith belief that we can control all photography but in fact we cannot control all photography. Regulation is needed of individuals who may take photographs of sites and/or collections, whether for individual or commercial use, as well as use of photos by PHMC, when taken by others, and photographs of individuals taken by PHMC.

Historic Preservation Board Meeting – Jean Cutler updated Commissioners on a recent Pennsylvania Historic Preservation Board Meeting that was held on October 2, 2012. The following sites were approved to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places: Schenley Farms Historic District, Sewickley Post Office; Yorktown Historic District; St. Paul's AME Church; Kensington Textiles Multiple Property; Quaker City Dye Works; Dreuding Bros Factory, Hotel Pennsylvania; Penn Towers; Preston

Laboratories; Brashear House and Factory and Irwinton Historic District. Palmerton Historic District was denied.

State Museum Collections Project – David Dunn reported to the Commission that the team is currently near the end of the Floyd Mifflin Collection. Originally we thought there were 210 pieces in the collection now, after the inventory there are over 3,000 pieces documented. There are three teams working, the first team is now working on reconciling the fine arts objects and records. The second team is professionally photographing the items in the fine arts area and the third team is going out to sites and museums and working at Cornwall Iron Furnace completing the inventory yesterday. The team will next begin work on the Political History Collection.

PA Civil War 150 – Karen Dougherty Buchholz updated the Commissioners on the PA Civil War 150. The steering committee met yesterday and discussed initiatives to market events across the Commonwealth. Content continues to be added to the www.pacivilwar150.com website. The PA Civil War 150th Road Show has concluded its trip on the road and is on its way to becoming an exhibit at the PA State Museum. September 2013 is the target opening date for the exhibit. The Civil War Traveling exhibit continues travel around the Commonwealth with its next stop in Bedford County.

The Civil War in Pennsylvania: A Photographic History will be available for sale in December retailing at \$34.95 each; *The Civil War in Pennsylvania: The African American Experience* will be available for sale Late Spring 2013. Work continues on the joint magazine dedicated to the Civil War in Pennsylvania available Summer 2013.

Rick Beard reported that a series of book signing events will take place throughout the year with the first book signing scheduled on January 23, 2013 at the Union League in Philadelphia. Now that the PA Civil War 150th Road Show has concluded, he is exploring the possibility of creating as many as five simple banner exhibits and marketing them to smaller organizations around the commonwealth. In honor of the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation, the document will be on display at The State Museum of Pennsylvania in January. The State Museum will kick-off the exhibit with a special presentation by Harold Holzer.

Pennsylvania Heritage Foundation – At the last Pennsylvania Heritage Foundation board meeting, Ann Moran reported they discussed its critical path document setting out priorities for the next three years. We need to increase membership and staff capacity for development and fundraising and hold donor cultivation events. Holiday membership promotion is underway offering one free new membership with each paid PHF membership; new SMOP memberships at 50% off. As of today, the annual giving has generated about \$10,000.

Jim Vaughan reported on a report published by the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee on Museum Funding. Overall, the report is pretty good; it does contain some factual errors and is critical of PHMC's past practices. PHMC Staff will submit a response to the committee by November 14th.

Representatives from Department of Conservation and Natural Resources met with Jim Vaughan and staff to discuss how to spruce up the third floor galleries. This is a great example of two state agencies working together in recognizing that we both serve the people of the commonwealth.

Executive Session – At this time, Chairman Masich called an Executive Session for PHMC Commissioners.

The Commission Meeting was called back to order at 11:50am. Part of our Intellectual Dessert was viewing of The Moon Mastodon Scapula (shoulder bone) by David Dunn.

Adjournment - Chairman Masich adjourned the meeting at 12pm.