

PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION
SEPTEMBER 9, 2015
MINUTES

The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission met on September 9, 2015 in the 5th Floor Board Room of the State Museum of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The following Commissioners were present: Chairman Andrew Masich, Susan Corbett, William Lewis, Ann Moran, Jean Craige Pepper, Fredrick Powell, Kate Eckhart for Senator Joseph Scarnati and Alice Lubrecht. Jack Barbour, Representative Robert Matzie, Representative Scott Petri and Richard Sand participated via conference call.

The following staff were present: James Vaughan, David Carmicheal, Serena Bellew, Mike Denny, Scott Doyle, David Dunn, Beth Hager, Brenda Reigle, Tammi Snyder-Queen and Howard Pollman. Heather Hu represented the Pennsylvania Heritage Foundation.

The following individuals also attended: Attorney John McGee, Vintage Baseball; Guy Pulhemus, Crossing Legacy Foundation; Amy McClellan, Crossing Legacy Foundation.

I. MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Masich called the meeting to order at 9 a.m. and at this time an Executive Session was called to consult with counsel on the following pending litigation: *Duquette v. PHMC*, Commonwealth Court, Case No. 1511 C.D. 2015; Office of Open Records, Docket No. AP 2015-0833; *Brown v. PHMC*, Office of Open Records, Docket No. AP 2015-1682; *Petrucce v. PHMC*, Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission, Case No. 201300338; *Marshall v. PHMC*, Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas, Case No. 003345, *Ceb v. Preserve Croatian Heritage Foundation* and PHMC Contract regarding Brandywine Battlefield.

II. INTRODUCTIONS

After the Executive Session ended, the regular PHMC Commission meeting resumed. Chairman Masich asked everyone in the room to introduce themselves.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Masich called for a motion to approve the minutes from the June 10, 2015 meeting.

MOTION: (Powell/Moran) Motion to accept the minutes as presented from the June 10, 2015 meeting. 12 in favor/0 opposed/0 abstentions. Motion carries. ABSENT: Karen Dougherty-Buchholz and Senator Andrew Dinniman.

IV. CHAIRMAN REPORT

Transition Update

Chairman Masich reminded PHMC Commissioners that we will continue to work as PHMC Commissioners until we receive notice from Governor Wolf of our status as commissioners.

V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Budget 2015 – 2016 - Jim Vaughan reported that the Commission is operating on a continuation of last year's budget. He is concerned with the number of the budget that was vetoed, was about \$600,000 short of what we need to maintain current staff and operations. Currently there is no money for PHMC's grants for museums. Our initial budget request for FY 2016-2017 was submitted last Friday and includes modest increases in several program areas.

Mike Denny, Director of Management Services reported on Go Time Projects. Objectives for new projects are: citizen benefits, employee efficiencies and data transparency that equal's cost savings to the agency. The Commission is working on the following projects: Digital Collections Management, Digital State Records Center, Digital System for Historic Preservation, Mobile App for Historic Sites and Collections Advancement Project.

Jim Vaughan announced the resignation of Serena Bellew, Bureau Director for the Bureau for Historic Preservation office and Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer. Serena is leaving the Commission the end of September to work for the General Services Administration in Washington, D.C. He thanked Serena for her work at the Commission and wished her success.

Historic Preservation

Update on Shell Petrochemical Facility – Serena Bellew reported that the Programmatic Agreement was signed in May completes the Section 106 process. Money from the mitigation project will be used to look at ways to help communities in Western Pennsylvania reuse their historic industrial properties.

Historic Marker Additions – William Lewis reported that the Historic Marker Committee has two provisional nominations for approval. Albert M. Greenfield from Philadelphia County was a businessman, diversity leader and helped guide the revitalization of Society Hill and Dr. Edward H. McCleery from McKean County helped save the Great Plains Wolf from extinction.

MOTION: (Powell/Moran) Motion to approve the Historic Marker nominations for Albert M. Greenfield and Dr. Edward H. McCleery. 12 in favor/0 opposed/0 abstentions. Motion carries (See attachment). ABSENT: Karen Dougherty-Buchholz and Senator Andrew Dinniman.

Marker Criteria Revisions – William Lewis reported that the PHMC Marker Staff recently reviewed the Criteria for Approval to determine if revisions are required. Based on discussion, the committee recommends the following changes:

Criterion #4 – Current Criterion: The subject to be marked is historic and dates to at least ten years prior to the nomination. It is not contemporary. Existing institutions may be considered if their contributions had a significant impact on history. Proposed Criterion: to include that significance of subject must clearly exceed that of passing contemporary interest. The person, place, event, or innovation to be marked had a significant impact on its times, and has statewide and/or national, rather than local or regional, historical significance. The significance of the subject must be historically established rather than of contemporary interest.

Criterion #5 – Current Criterion: The person(s) to be marked has been deceased for at least ten years. Proposed Criterion: A marker cannot be approved for a living person. The significance of an individual's accomplishments must have had a measurable impact on history based on documentation.

Criterion #11 – Current Criterion: Places listed on the National Register of Historic Places and/or recognized as National Historic Landmarks or United Nations World Heritage Sites receive equal consideration by the review panel. Such places will not be summarily approved; they are subject to all Marker Criteria. Proposed Criterion: Places listed on the National Register of Historic Places and/or recognized as National Historic Landmarks or United Nations World Heritage sites may be considered by the review panel.

These places will not be summarily approved because the approval criteria for those designations are different. Nominations for these places are subject to all State Historical Marker Approval Criteria.

MOTION: (Pepper/Moran) Motion to approve the PHMC Marker Criteria Revisions as presented. 12 in favor/0 opposed/0 abstentions. Motion carries (See attachment). ABSENT: Karen Dougherty-Buchholz and Senator Andrew Dinniman.

Act 167 Historic District Designations – Serena Bellew reported on the Historic District Act Certification Request for the Borough of Kennett Square. The Borough of Kennett Square, Chester County has requested PHMC certification of The Kennett Square Borough Historic District pursuant to the Historic District Act (Act 167 of 1961). The Historic District Act requires PHMC to certify as to the “historical significance of the district or districts within the limits defined in the ordinance” prior to any ordinance regulating the activities within designated districts taking effect. After review of the materials provided by the Borough in conjunction within this request and recommend that PHMC certify the significance of the district as requested.

MOTION: (Petri/Pepper) Motion to approve the Historic District Act Certification Request for the Borough of Kennett Square, Chester County. 12 in favor/0 opposed/0 abstentions. Motion carries (See attachment). ABSENT: Karen Dougherty-Buchholz and Senator Andrew Dinniman.

Special Award from Preservation Pennsylvania – Jim Vaughan reported that the Commission co-hosted the Statewide Preservation Conference with Preservation Pennsylvania at the State Museum of Pennsylvania in July. Preservation Pennsylvania presented a Special Anniversary Recognition to The State Museum of Pennsylvania for its preservation and restoration efforts.

First African Baptist Church – Serena Bellew reported that PHMC’s interest in the property is the result of grant funding awarded to First African Baptist for the repair and rehabilitation of the building. As a condition of the grant, First African Baptist church entered into a covenant for the maintenance and preservation of the building that expires on August 7, 2022.

Currently, the owner would like to sell the property because it is expensive to maintain and damaging to his membership. The property has since become controversial; there is a group of the church’s

congregation trying to block the sale of the property. The City of Philadelphia has cited the property for its dangerous conditions and has requested that two engineering reports be conducted on the building.

PHMC has asked for documentation to show that the building is deteriorated and that it cannot be repaired. To date, PHMC has not received any documentation to support a request from demolition or a formal request for release from the property owner. PHMC is willing to speak with any future owner to discuss the viability of the repair and reuse of the property.

Pipeline Task Force – Serena reported that the Bureau for Historic Preservation was invited to participate in the new Pipeline Infrastructure Task Force. PHMC is a sitting member within the task force which has about 48 members.

C. State Archives

SHRAB Nominations – David Carmicheal reported that there are three nominees for appointment to the State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB). The SHRAB serves as the central advisory body for historical records planning. Members are professional archivists who also review grant applications submitted to the national Historical Publications and Records Commission from Pennsylvania institutions.

MOTION: (Lubrecht/Moran) Motion to approve the following appointments to the State Historic Records Advisory Board, as recommended by the State Historical Records Coordinator and in accordance with the standards prescribed by the National Historical Publication and Records Commission: Heidi Mays, Archivist, Pennsylvania House of Representatives and Sally Flaherty, Social Studies Advisor, PA Department of Education, Bureau of Curriculum. 12 favor/0 opposed/0 abstention. Motion Carries. See Attachment.

ABSENT: Karen Dougherty-Buchholz and Senator Andrew Dinniman.

MOTION: (Lubrucht/Moran) Motion to approve the following appointment to the State Historic Records Advisory Board, as recommended by the State Historical Records Coordinator and in accordance with the standards prescribed by the National Historical Publication and Records Commission: John Paul Deley, Director, Detre Library and Archives, Heinz History Center, Pittsburgh. 11 in favor/0 opposed/1 abstention. Chairman Masich abstained from voting. Motion carries. See Attachment. ABSENT: Karen Dougherty-Buchholz and Senator Andrew Dinniman.

Update New State Archives – David Carmicheal reported that the Commission was requested by Governor Wolf to move the location of the new State Archives building within the city limits of Harrisburg. David Carmicheal and Jim Vaughan met with the governor to discuss possible locations above the flood plain within the City of Harrisburg. Governor Wolf expressed his support for this building and help in finding another location for the building. David Carmicheal and Jim Vaughan also met with Department of General Services (DGS) staff. DGS solicited proposals for property that met our criteria for the building site. Two proposals were received, one of which was too small the other was the right size but raised mitigation concerns. Other properties that we had already discussed with DGS did not come back in the solicitation. We met with DGS again to pursue these properties.

Most of the architectural planning will not be lost because our focus up to this point has been schematic design. Archives staff continues to prepare for the move. Jim reported that they are currently looking at 3 potential sites all located on North 6th Street.

D. State Museum

Natural History & History Exhibit Plans – Jim Vaughan reported that the State Museum currently has an exhibit under construction on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd floor of the museum. The Nature Lab opened this summer; Beth Hager has been handling the program and has been very successful.

Dave Dunn is leading the project on the Carboniferous forest; the Carboniferous forest was the museum's first truly environmental exhibit which opened in 1977. It was time for a renovation, over the years, the light and soundtrack discontinued to work and the leaves were covered in dust.

Beth Hager is working on a juried photography exhibit title “The Pennsylvania Modern: A Juried Photography Exhibition of Midcentury Modern Architecture”.

The Pennsylvania Turnpike exhibit will feature a restored toll booth and is scheduled to open on October 1st, the 75th Anniversary of the Pennsylvania Turnpike.

Pennsylvania Icons will feature over 300 artifacts and works of art that tell the story of the commonwealth, its people and the role they played in shaping the nation is being installed on the first floor of the museum.

Collections Advancement Project – Dave Dunn reported on the Collections Advancement Project. Physical inventory of the Community and Domestic Life Collection was completed and more than 14,000 objects were found than we estimated in the collection. Two of the curators left the project over the summer for other pursuits. We will be interviewing possible candidates to fill those positions soon and we will be asking for a 12 month extension to the project.

Curators are currently working on the Industry and Technology Collection; there are estimated 15,000 pieces in the collection, so far 9,367 pieces have been inventoried. Physical inventory of the Pop Culture Collection is complete with 624 pieces in the collection. The Military Collection is up next for physical inventory.

David provided a collections management software update. The current software is outdated and we are working with Lucidea to acquire ARGUS.net. Mary Jane Miller is working with the collections management staff reviewing and cleaning data and prepared for migration.

E. Historic Sites and Museums

Authorization for installation of Mariner East 2 by Sunoco Pipeline, L.P. at Bushy Run Battlefield through Public Service Line License – William Lewis reported that Sunoco has requested permission to install a second pipeline at Bushy Run Battlefield. This pipeline will be installed within the same area that PHMC currently licenses to them for another pipeline. William Lewis recommended the Commission approve the installation of a second Sunoco pipeline at Bushy Run Battlefield Historic Site, and authorize Jim Vaughan to sign an agreement regarding same.

MOTION: (Powell/Moran) Motion to approve the installation of a second Sunoco pipeline at Bushy Run Battlefield Historic Site, and authorize Jim Vaughan to sign an agreement regarding same. 12 in favor/0 opposed/0 abstention. Motion carries. See Attachment. ABSENT: Karen Dougherty-Buchholz and Senator Andrew Dinniman.

Representative Petri asked what the impact is and what is the customary fee? Brenda Reigle replied that there is little impact because there is already land disturbance and it is in an area that the Bureau for Historic Preservation has already archaeology cleared. The fee was determined last time by Tom Leonard looking at comparable pipelines that went across other state properties. This time, we would use a similar analysis in determining the fee.

Washington Crossing/DCNR Update – Brenda Reigle reported that PHMC has drafted an overarching agreement with DCNR to cover administrative jurisdiction issued if this transfer occurs with passage of the budget. This agreement should be finalized and ready to go to DCNR by the end of September.

Guy Polhemus, Crossing Legacy Foundation addressed the commission about his concerns that PHMC is going to turn the management of Washington Crossing Historic Park over to DCNR. He believes DCNR has a different threshold when it comes to historical buildings and what you can and cannot do the property. Serena Bellew responded that because DCNR is a state agency they will be required to comply with the state history code.

Eckley Baseball Update – Brenda Reigle provided an update to Eckley Baseball. In March of 2015, the Commission authorized the staff to move forward with a lease with Anthracite Vintage Baseball organization. Mid-April we had prepared a lease and sent it to Attorney John McGee. At the last Commission meeting we had a discussion regarding moving the field slightly within the space we had allocated so that PHMC would continue to have both program space and to protect some archaeological resources. Attorney John McGee continues to review PHMC's lease for vintage baseball at the site and would like to schedule a meeting with staff to discuss the designated boundaries that would serve as the playing field.

Authorization re: Petruce v. PHMC, Case No. 201300338 – MOTION: (Powell/Petri) Motion to authorize Brenda Reigle to enter into a conciliation agreement with Petruce v. PHMC

VI. MUSEUM PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

Beth Hager reported that earlier this year we learned that a World War One Centennial Commission was formed; a letter inviting Pennsylvania into the fold was sent to Governor Wolf. We reached out and invited the volunteers of the National Commission and regional representatives to PHMC to learn about our World War One related collections and toured the Pennsylvania Military Museum.

Jim Vaughan said this is a great opportunity for us to have all of our bureaus participate in some way: a World War One poster exhibit; planting poppies along the Pennsylvania Turnpike; and a project at the Pennsylvania Military Museum recognizing the soldiers in World War One and honoring the people who lost their life in World War Two.

VII. PENNSYLVANIA HERITAGE FOUNDATION

Heather Hu reported she is focused on staff transitions, assessing our policy and procedures, continue to grow the fundraising program and really focus our emphasis on fundraising and membership. Gala sponsorships paid or pledged: \$41,500 cash plus \$22,500 in-kind contributions for a total value of \$64,000. With the committed sponsors that we have we are near selling out for the gala. We are considering the possibility of adding additional tables in the changing Wilson Exhibit next to Mammal Hall for the seated dinner. Sponsors include: ABC27; Blackford Ventures, LLC; BNYMellon, Bobby Rahal Automotive Group; Capital BlueCross; Comcast; Giant; JDK; John and Ann Moran; Mazza Wine; McNees Wallace; Ocean Independence; Omni Interactive Systems and Walmart.

\$160,000 has been raised in corporate sponsorships for the Pennsylvania Turnpike: America's First Superhighway Exhibit. Opening reception is schedule for October 1, 2015.

The Pennsylvania Heritage Foundation continues to administer three NHPRC grants on behalf of the State Archives to support State Historical Records Advisory Board and to process papers of four governors. The next issue of the Pennsylvania Heritage Magazine is due out later this week. We continue to seek William Lewis help with the Fort Pitt Endowment held by PHF, in Vanguard funds, first distribution was made. Washington Crossing fund is concluded.

Heather Hu drafted guidelines for fundraising opportunities for her staff that she can provide to sites outside of the museum and archives. Currently, PHF staff time is very limited but we do hope moving forward to be able to do more with the sites that want and are interested in working with the foundation in fundraising activities.

PA Civil War 150 is concluding this year; remaining books that were produced by the Heinz History Center will be returned. We are working with a local group on some events that will conclude serving as fiscal agent. Amma Johnson and Joan Prescott are two new members of the Board of Directors.

VIII. **NEW BUSINESS**

Meeting dates for 2016 PHMC Commission meeting will be included in the December meeting packet.

IX. **ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Masich adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

20150909_1 MOTION: (Powell/Moran) Motion to accept the minutes as presented from the June 10, 2015 meeting. 12 in favor/0 opposed/0 abstentions. Motion carries. ABSENT: Karen Dougherty-Buchholz and Senator Andrew Dinniman.

20150909_2 MOTION: (Powell/Moran) Motion to approve the Historic Marker nominations for Albert M. Greenfield and Dr. Edward H. McCleery. 12 in favor/0 opposed/0 abstentions. Motion carries (See attachment). ABSENT: Karen Dougherty-Buchholz and Senator Andrew Dinniman.

20150909_3 MOTION: (Pepper/Moran) Motion to approve the PHMC Marker Criteria Revisions as presented. 12 in favor/0 opposed/0 abstentions. Motion carries (See attachment). ABSENT: Karen Dougherty-Buchholz and Senator Andrew Dinniman.

20150909_4 MOTION: (Petri/Pepper) Motion to approve the Historic District Act Certification Request for the Borough of Kennett Square, Chester County. 12 in favor/0 opposed/0 abstentions. Motion carries (See attachment). ABSENT: Karen Dougherty-Buchholz and Senator Andrew Dinniman.

20150909_5 MOTION: (Lubrecht/Moran) Motion to approve the following appointments to the State Historic Records Advisory Board, as recommended by the State Historical Records Coordinator and in accordance with the standards prescribed by the National Historical Publication and Records Commission: Heidi Mays, Archivist, Pennsylvania House of Representatives and Sally Flaherty, Social Studies Advisor, PA Department of Education, Bureau of Curriculum. 12 in favor/0 opposed/0 abstention. Motion carries. See Attachment. ABSENT: Karen Dougherty-Buchholz and Senator Andrew Dinniman.

20150909_6 MOTION: (Lubracht/Moran) Motion to approve the following appointment to the State Historic Records Advisory Board, as recommended by the State Historical Records Coordinator and in accordance with the standards prescribed by the National Historical Publication and Records Commission: John Paul Deley, Director, Detre Library and Archives, Heinz History Center, Pittsburgh. 11 in favor/0 opposed/1 abstention. Chairman Masich abstained from voting. Motion carries. See Attachment. ABSENT: Karen Dougherty-Buchholz and Senator Andrew Dinniman.

20150909_7 MOTION: (Powell/Moran) Motion to approve the installation of a second Sunoco pipeline at Bushy Run Battlefield Historic Site, and authorize Jim Vaughan to sign an agreement regarding same. 12 in favor/0 opposed/0 abstention. Motion carries. ABSENT: Karen Dougherty-Buchholz and Senator Andrew Dinniman.