

**MILLSTONE TOWNSHIP HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**  
***IN-PERSON AND ZOOM MEETING***

**7:30**

**February 16, 2023**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**CALL TO ORDER**

- This meeting was called to order by Interim Chair Butch at 7:30PM

**FLAG SALUTE**

**ROLL CALL**

- Attendees: Commissioner Butch, Commissioner Onitiri, Commissioner Ragosa
- Absent: Commissioner Castagliola, Commissioner Blackwell
- Guest in Attendance: N/A

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- Monmouth County Historic Preservation Commission to Commissioner Butch
  - Commissioner Butch received a letter awarding HPC with \$6,000 for Monmouth County Preservation Grant
    - Grant is for refurbishing the siding on the Thomas Baird Homestead
    - Town will put in \$10,000 to match the \$6,000 we're getting from this grant
      - FMTHRP will provide \$4,000 for us
      - Need to have a total of \$20,000 for this project

**APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S MINUTES**

- Minutes from January 19, 2023 Meeting
  - Commissioner Onitiri made a motion to approve the minutes with some amendments. Commissioner Ragosa second the motion, in which it was approved

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. NJ Heritage Tourism Grant
  - a. Hunter Research, Inc. (HRI) progress report
    - i. Commissioner Butch and Commissioner Onitiri met with HRI to discuss progress report
    - ii. Next meeting will be held on March 8 at 1:00 to review first draft of interpretive plan
      1. 2023 potential grants to apply to will be discussed and planned
2. Historic Scenic By-ways

- a. N/A
- 3. Interviews
  - a. N/A
- 4. Education
  - a. 3 Chapter Books are currently in the works
    - i. Elizabeth Conover
      - 1. Commissioner Butch met with art teacher to discuss how to structure the book and what art work to choose
      - 2. Meeting on February 21 with art teacher and Muriel Smith
        - a. Will have a first draft after that meeting for HPC to make comments
    - ii. Windmill, sawmill, gristmill, and green energy
      - 1. Windmill part is about done
        - a. Wind energy was used
      - 2. Monmouth County parks system will give us pictures and help us with description of gristmill at Walnford
        - a. Connects HPC to another site
        - b. Connects to clean energy
          - i. Mill was run by water energy
      - 3. Commissioner Butch will connect with a science teacher in the Millstone Township Schools to see how book can be tied into the curriculum
        - a. Want to make the connection between today's mission of clean energy (i.e. solar, wind) and milling's use of clean energy
    - iii. Patience Tract, the Underground Railroad and Quilts
      - 1. Research is in the works for this book

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- 1. 250th Birthday of America
  - a. Resolution was passed by the Township on Wednesday, February 15
    - i. HPC was named as the lead for the 250th celebration from the Township.
      - 1. Idea: Kevin Abernathy would like to coordinate to do a bike ride from Trenton to Sandy Hook
      - 2. Idea: Commissioner Butch would want to put a screen in front of some historic resources in the Township to see what they used to look like
        - a. Screen would be pulled back to reveal what the resource looks like now

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Update on Potential New Members
  - a. Commissioner Butch and Commissioner Onitiri met with 3 potential candidates
    - i. Shazel Mohammed,
      1. Her family grew up in Woodville Community and with the St. James AME Church
    - ii. Robert Scott
      1. Airline pilot, Indigenous background, comes from the Hoppe Nation
      2. Wants to do research with us
    - iii. Robbin Bruins
      1. Lives in Upper Freehold
      2. Head of 4-H Club in Millstone and President of Monmouth County 4-H Association
  - b. Hopefully next meeting the potential new members will be approved
2. Update on Zoom Information
  - a. Commissioner Ragosa will receive a new password to access the Township's Zoom link
3. Monmouth County Open Space Grant Phase I and II
  - a. Both Phase I and II of the Open Space Grant has been awarded to HPC for a total \$700,000
    - i. This grant will be used for Clarksburg Cultural Center (CCC)
      1. To build visitor center with ADA bathrooms, sidewalks for access, and bike repair shop
  - b. Grant was submitted by the HPC through the Township and supported by the FMTHRP
    - i. FMTHRP will assist HPC with onsite supervision of construction
4. Monmouth County Historic Commission Grant
  - a. Grant is for updating and refurbishing the siding on the Thomas Baird Homestead \$6,000
  - b. Grant will be awarded to us at an awards ceremony
    - i. Will be held at Freehold Hall of Records Annex Building
      1. Kevin Abernathy will be attending the ceremony on behalf of the Township to accept the grant
5. 2023 Grants To Apply To
  - a. Heritage Tourism Grant
    - i. HPC and FMTHRP will be co-applicants
  - b. NJ Historic Capital Grant 1 or 2
    - i. HPC will be applying for this grant
    - ii. If we ask for \$150,000 or less, we will apply for Capital Grant 1, but if it is more then we will apply for Capital Grant 2

1. HPC is getting estimate to see how much it will cost to restore the current Municipal Building (National Register and State Listed)
  - a. Barton Ross has been assisting on building material estimates
  - c. NJ Historic Capital Grant and Heritage Tourism Grant allows recipients to use 20% of awarded amount to hire professionals for their service

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- N/A

### **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

- Having no further business, Commissioner Ragosa moved to adjourn at 8:10PM. Commissioner Onitiri second that motion in which the meeting was concluded.

### **NEXT MEETING**

- March 16, 2023

Meeting Minutes taken by Historic Preservation Commission's Secretary, Grace A. Ragosa