## WARREN COUNTY MUNICIPAL AND CHARITABLE CONSERVANCY TRUST FUND COMMITTEE

500 Mt. Pisgah Avenue Oxford, NJ 07863

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF July 11, 2016

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Tersigni opened the meeting at 7:38 p.m., read the Open Public Meeting Notice, and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:** 

Members Present: Jean Smolha

Todd Tersigni David Smith

Cindy Neumann

Nancy Miller

Charles Fineran

Wendy Buttgereit Steve Zarbatany

Ethel Conry

Timothy Bodine

Members Absent: Lori Ciesla, Hal Bromm

**Staff Present:** 

Corey Tierney, Christina Roberts

## REORGANIZATION and APPOINTMENTS

**MINUTES:** The October 6, 2015 and June 6, 2016 minutes were reviewed.

Charles Fineran motioned, seconded by Nancy Miller to approve the October 6, 2015 minutes as presented; Wendy Buttgereit, Ethel Conry, and David Smith abstained. Motion carried.

David Smith motioned, seconded by Steve Zarbatany to approve the June 6, 2016 minutes as presented. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS: New Village Recreation Field - Nancy Miller distributed copies of the 2012 application. Franklin Township received funding to acquire the property and indicated in their application that they would be using it for active recreation. To-date, the property sits unimproved as a grass field with no signage that it is for public use, other than a Green Acres sign. Mrs. Miller inquired whether the County could get the grant money back from the Township. Mr. Tierney explained that improvement of the park, while presented by the township as its intent for the property. was not a condition of the grant agreement. Nevertheless, Mr. Tierney suggested that he write a letter on the Committee's behalf that signage is required within 30-days or the township would be in breach of contract under their grant agreement. He also stated that the Committee could take their lack of progress into consideration if the township applies for future grant funds. David Smith motioned, seconded by Charles Fineran for Mr. Tierney to write a letter to the Mayor of Franklin Township on the Committee's behalf.

Roll Call: "Yes" for Mr. Tierney to write the above-mentioned letter to the Mayor of Franklin Township.

Timothy Bodine - Yes Charles Fineran - Yes

David Smith - Yes

Nancy Miller - Yes Jean Smolha - Yes

Wendy Buttgereit - Yes

Ethel Conry - Yes Cindy Neumann - Yes Todd Tersigni - Yes

Steve Zarbatany - Yes

Totals: Yes: 10, No: 0, Abstain: 0; Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Review and Discuss 2016 Applications for Completeness

**Alpha Borough Open Space** - After review, the Committee determined the application is complete and Alpha Borough is eligible to proceed in the application process. It was also noted that Alpha Borough is the only municipality to have never received MCCTFC grant funds in the past.

**Tucci Open Space** - After review, the Committee determined the application is complete and The Nature Conservancy is eligible to proceed in the application process.

Frelinghuysen Forest Preserve "Boat House" - Charles Fineran motioned, seconded by Ethel Conry to deem Frelinghuysen Forest Preserve "Boat House" ineligible to proceed in the application process because they are not currently listed on the state or national historic registry, nor have a letter of eligibility. The applicant may reapply once the letter of eligibility has been obtained.

Roll Call: "Yes" to agree that **Frelinghuysen Forest Preserve** "Boat House" is ineligible to proceed in the application process.

Timothy Bodine - Yes Charles Fineran - Yes David Smith - Yes Steve Zarbatany - Yes Wendy Buttgereit - Abstain Nancy Miller - Yes Jean Smolha - Abstain Ethel Conry - Yes Cindy Neumann - Yes Todd Tersigni - Yes

Totals: Yes: 8, No: 0, Abstain: 2; Motion carried.

**Union Station** - After review, the Committee determined the application is complete and The Friends of NJ Transportation Heritage is eligible to proceed in the application process. It was noted that there was a mathematical error on the cover page regarding the requested grant amount.

**Van-Nest Hoff-Vannatta** - After review, the Committee determined the application is complete and Harmony Township Historic Preservation Commission is eligible to proceed in the application process. Mr. Tierney will contact the Commission to determine if the painting aspect is part of a larger restoration project or if it is solely maintenance, which alone is considered ineligible.

**Mount Bethel Church -** After review, the Committee determined the application is complete and Mansfield Township is eligible to proceed in the application process.

**Roseberry House -** After review, the Committee determined the application is complete and Phillipsburg Area Historical Society is eligible to proceed in the application process. Todd Tersigni and Steve Zarbatany will recuse themselves from any voting and/or discussions regarding both Phillipsburg projects.

**St. James Lutheran Church -** After review, the Committee determined the application is complete and St. James Lutheran Church is eligible to proceed in the application process.

Mr. Tierney noted that there is a lawsuit in Morris County, separating the church from the state. If a conclusion is reached prior to award of grant funds, he will let the Committee know the outcome.

**Eckel's Autogiro Port** - After review, the Committee determined the application is complete and Washington Township is eligible to proceed in the application process. Questions to be asked of the applicant: How will they use the property? How will the township residents benefit from the restoration of this building? When will it be open to the public?

**Adam Wandling Blacksmith Shop** - After review, the Committee determined the application is complete and Washington Township is eligible to proceed in the application process.

Mr. Tierney stated that there is nothing in the rules from preventing an applicant from submitting two applications, but the Committee can either have township prioritize which application receives funding or they can determine through questions, which project would benefit the township residents more. The Committee should also ask the applicant to answer any questions that were not completed.

**APPLICANT SITE VISITS:** Site visits will scheduled for Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup>. The Committee will meet at the Land Preservation Office at 8:30 a.m., leave by 8:45 a.m., and will return at approximately 4:45 p.m.

**APPLICANT PRESENTATIONS:** Applicant presentations to the Committee will be scheduled for September 12, 2016.

**NEXT MEETING:** The August 1, 2016 meeting will be canceled. The next meeting is scheduled for September 12, 2016.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, David Smith motioned, seconded by Nancy Miller to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christina Roberts

Administrative Clerk