

**Pocono Township Bi-Centennial Celebration Committee  
Meetings Minutes of February 18, 2016**

Present: Denise Herbert; Jennifer Fisher; Charlie Trapasso; Trip Ruvane; Tony Farda

Also Present: Pocono/Jackson Historical Society's (PJHS) James Werkheiser, President; Dottie Telesky, Secretary; Lynford Werkheiser; David Werkheiser; Township Manager Gregg Schuster

Absent: Maria Bonowits

I. Call to order by Charlie Trapasso, 5:07pm

II. January Minutes: Denise motioned for approval; Tony seconded

III. Amendments to add to today's agenda: none

IV. Funds: several donations have been made by Pocono Medical Center (\$10,000), The Farda Foundation (\$2,500), Desaki and Barley Creek \$1000 (\$860 used for totes), and PJTHS (\$2,500). Other donations are pending. Continual fundraising efforts are being made.

V. Unfinished Business

a. With the renovations and conversion of the MVP Community Center to the Pocono Heritage Center, the primary voting location has been changed to Pocono Elementary Center.

b. Mike Leddy has photographed the interior and exterior of the proposed Heritage Center. He will interview long-term residents for a documentary, which will also be used for marketing purposes. Before additional efforts or advancements are completed in this area, the BOC will need to approve.

c. Tori Padmos, PME HS student will be coordinating student involvement for the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

d. Charlie has been working on an ESSA grant and will submit the application on or around February 19, 2016. Charlie will then present to the ESSA Board on March 9<sup>th</sup> at 9am.

e. Continued efforts are being made to form a 501c3, Pocono Heritage Foundation, Inc. A Board of Directors has been formed. BOD will include Alex Grum, Charlie Trapasso, Dottie Telesky, Dawn Wood, and Tony Farda. The BOD will meet at least 1x per year, but a system by which accounts will be addressed and funds dispersed will need to be developed.

VI. Pocono Jackson Township Historical Society

a. Historical events for 2016 are being developed; Dottie sent Marie and Denise information that may be incorporated into one or more of the presentations. The August 2016 event date will be changed from the 21<sup>st</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup>.

b. The website and Facebook continue to reach more people and have additional visitors.

c. The Centennial Band will play at Pocono Mountain East High School on September 18, 1pm. The building use application has been completed; a fee is required by the school as is proof of insurance. Gregg will look into the insurance issue and if the fee could be waived.

d. Pictures are needed of the old tannery, which will be presented during the July event. David will also provide tannery exhibits.

e. David suggested that paperweights of some kind be purchased and then sold to the public. He also suggested purchasing bricks at \$22 per brick. Bricks would be laser engraved with information about the Bicentennial or other requested information and then sold to the public. A cost of \$11,000 would

need to be expended. Trip stated that he may know someone to help with the brick idea and he would coordinate with David to pursue this idea.

f. Gregg went through the steps of the Heritage Center construction. They include the following:

- 501c3 formed
- Building plans developed
- Building plans presented to Township
- Township reviews plans
- BOC approves plans
- Agreement between the Township and 501c3
- 5013c arranges for all construction, with the exception of bathrooms (general construction does not need to be bid out)
- Township bids out the bathrooms and awards contract
- Inspection (by Township and building code officer)
- BOC votes to accept

#### VII. New Business

a. Nathan Laubach, DC has submitted a letter of interest to serve on the Committee. He is interested in promoting the Bicentennial and Heritage Center to his medical colleagues.

b. Jennifer will contact the Chamber of Commerce to ask for business contacts with the intent of sending out mailers/flyers.

c. Flags may be purchased from [venusflagstore.com](http://venusflagstore.com), Sciotia, PA. Flags may be displayed on private property, but not on Township or public property. Gregg will look into this further. Utility pole displays would be subject to the owner's approval, and it is unlikely that PPL or other utility companies will approve.

#### **Open Forum**

Should anyone wish to be heard at the Committee meetings, they may contact the Township at 570-629-1922 before 3pm on the day of the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned by Charlie at 6:06 pm. Next meeting: March 17, 2016