

Pocono Township Bicentennial Celebration Committee
Meetings Minutes of September 10, 2015

Present: Charlie Trapasso, Chairperson; Denise Herbert, Secretary; Jennifer Fisher

Also Present:

Pocono Township Manager Gregg Schuster

Pocono/Jackson Historical Society (PJHS): James Werkheiser, President; Dottie Telesky, Secretary/Treasurer; and Dr. Linford Werkheiser

Michael Tukeva. Executive Director of Pocono Alliance

Call to order by Charlie Trapasso at 4:05pm

August Minutes: Quorum not established

Amendments to the Agenda: none

Proposal to BOC (Board of Commissioners)

a. Charlie met with David McGary of *GAK Engineering* and Wayne Vanderhoof of *Schoonover & Vanderhoof Architectural Firm LLC*. The Community Center was measured and forthcoming are two separate site plans and renderings of the proposed historical museum. One rendering will reflect an interior and exterior “cosmetic enhancement” of the existing space and footprint and the second an expansion of the existing footprint as well as an interior and exterior renovation. Vincent Trapasso offered to assist with meeting and negotiating contractor bids. The current capacity of the existing space is 50 people. Gregg indicated the cost of permitting would be minimal and attainable for an October 2016 completion date.

b. Prior to the October 5th BOC meeting, Marie and Charlie will draft a written proposal to the BOC. Following committee review, the said proposal will be forwarded to the BOC. Should the museum site plan and renderings become available prior to the October 5th BOC meeting, Charlie will request that the Bicentennial Committee be added to the BOC 10/5 meeting agenda. At said meeting, members of the Bicentennial Committee will request to move forward with modifying the *Mountain View Park Community Center* into the Pocono Township Historical Museum and meeting room. Following BOC approval, a proposed renovation construction plan will be developed. Once a proposed renovation construction plan is in place, the Bicentennial Committee will request a second presentation with the BOC to seek permission to move forward with the project.

New Business:

a. Charlie introduced Michael Tukeva and suggested the committee consider retaining Michael as the Project Manager. Since Michael and Charlie successfully raised well over 90% of the \$500,000 cost for the Crossing Abilities Playground within 7 months, Charlie suggested we consider taking advantage of Michael’s extensive community and business connections to assist us with our fundraising and marketing goals. Michael may also be able to assist with obtaining grant monies for the museum renovation project. Michael indicated his interest however further discussion will be deferred to the October Bicentennial meeting.

b. At the September 8, 2015 Recreation Committee meeting, the museum renovation project was presented and given complete support by all members present.

c. Charlie attended the Stroudsburg's Centennial celebration on September 5th which was part of the larger *StroudFest*. Town officials, state representatives and committee members were present. 200 year old letters written to the decedents of the letter writers were read and given as keepsakes to present day relatives. A time capsule containing items such as photographs, letters, current memorabilia and such was installed. Charlie reached out to Boyd Weiss, Stroudsburg Borough Supervisor in hopes of scheduling a meeting to obtain recommendations and data regarding a return on their investment.

d. *The Trinity Centennial Band* are willing to perform at one of our historical presentations and on the PT Museum Ribbon Cutting ceremony. James indicated that while he has many instruments in storage available for display; this band can play music of by-gone eras. The Centennial Band has all of the sheet music that the Glenwood Hall Band had when they dissolved.

e. James asked if the Historical Museum could also be used as a Visitors Center. His thought was it may be more appealing to the BOC if the museum had multiple purposes. Denise indicated that while the museum may be used for a meeting place for local civic groups, a Visitors Center may be expected to provide information pertaining to directions, Pocono sites & recreational activities, hotel accommodations and more.

Old Business

a. Trip is gathering logos for the Committee to use in its promotions. He should have several to present to the Committee at the October meeting.

b. The Laurel Blossom Art Exhibit scheduled for June 16, 2016 at Pocono Manor may be tabled in favor of a November 2016 Donor Recognition dinner/luncheon for sponsors, donors and dignitaries. The Committee will need to discuss this further however three members present at today's meeting agreed this would serve as a wonderful closing venue to show appreciation for all those involved in the project.

c. Desaki and Barley Creek will hold a charity softball game at Mountain View Park on September 14, 2015 at 2:30PM. All were encouraged to attend. Should Desaki win, \$1000 will be donated to the *Salvation Army*. Should BC win, \$1,000 will be donated to the Bicentennial fund. WBRE will film and broadcast a segment of the game.

Pocono Jackson Historical Society

a. Denise, Dottie, Jim, and Linford will conduct a meeting immediately following tonight's Bicentennial meeting to discuss historical events/presentations for the 2016 Bicentennial Celebration. Some suggestions include artifact displays and speeches by *PJHS* members. Several ideas have been suggested by Denise and agreed to by Maria. Today's meeting will specify locations, times, and dates of events.

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 5:04pm.

Next meeting is October 8, 2015 at 5:00pm. Location will be the Mountain View Community Center at Mountain View Park.