



300 Mendham Road | P.O. Box 1295 | Morris Township, New Jersey 07962-1295
Telephone: 973.326.7600 | Fax: 973.644.2726 | TTY Relay: 7-1-1
www.morrisparks.net

THE MORRIS COUNTY PARK COMMISSION
DISTRIBUTION OF PARK COMMISSION WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES

Date

October 11, 2016

1. President Betty Cass-Schmidt
2. Vice President Barbara Shepard
3. Commissioner Julie C. Baron
4. Commissioner Stuart Lasser
5. Commissioner Edward G. McCarthy
6. Commissioner Mathew Tal
7. Commissioner Richard Seabury, III
8. Commissioner Louis A. Valori, Jr.
9. Commissioner Kim M. Wentworth
10. Executive Director David D. Helmer
11. Freeholder Liaison Douglas R. Cabana
12. File – 2

THE MORRIS COUNTY PARK COMMISSION

300 Mendham Road

Morris Township, New Jersey

President Cass-Schmidt called to order the 839th meeting of the Morris County Park Commission at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, October 11, 2016 in the Park Commission Board Room at The Cultural Center, 300 Mendham Road, Morris Township, New Jersey.

Executive Director Helmer then read the following notice: PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., adequate notice of this meeting held at 9:30 a.m. on the 11th day of October, 2016, has been provided by publication in the *Daily Record* and *The Star-Ledger*, by posting of said notice in the Administration Building of the Morris County Park Commission, at the County Courthouse, and by filing a copy of the same with the Morris County Clerk, and by posting an Agenda on the Morris County Park Commission website.

ROLL CALL

The following were present:

President Betty Cass-Schmidt
Vice President Barbara Shepard
Commissioner Julie C. Baron
Commissioner Stuart Lasser
Commissioner Edward McCarthy
Commissioner Richard Seabury
Commissioner Valori

Executive Director David D. Helmer
Deputy Executive Director Richard Vitale
Park Counsel John Suminski

Also in attendance were the following staff:

Assistant Deputy Director of Cultural & Environmental Resources Zafonte, Director of Recreation Facilities Fauci, Director of Park Planning & Development Denise Chaplick, Park Police Chief DiPietro, Assistant Deputy Director/Development Lanza, Assistant Director of Historic Sites Laffey, Director of Parks and Visitor Services Biase, Manager of Park Maintenance Weisnet, Manager of Engineering Hutzelmann, Manager of Safety & Compliance Rack, Manager of Golf Manzi, Superintendent of Natural Resources Kovacevic and Recreation Supervisor Robertson.

Also in attendance were:

| Name | Address | Representing |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Melverne Cooke | 38 Grand Avenue Cedar Knolls, NJ | Self |
| William J. McKelvey | | Liberty Historic Railway, Inc. |
| Robert Hooper | 4 Carriage Hill Drive Long Valley, NJ | North Jersey ERHS |
| Jack May | 135 Montclair Ave., Montclair, NJ | Liberty Historic Railway, Inc. |

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

President Cass-Schmidt led those present in the salute to the flag.

President Cass-Schmidt introduced Director of Park Planning & Development Chaplick, who then introduced the new Engineer, Mr. Jim Hutzelmann, Jim is coming to the Park Commission from the Highlands Council, where he spent the last 10 years of his career. Manager of Engineering Hutzelmann then spoke to the Park Commission and explained that while at the Highlands Commission, he was the Senior Engineer, and worked with primarily water resources and also project review. Prior to that he was employed with NRCS doing conservation programs throughout northern New Jersey. Prior to that he was a consultant doing waste water and storm water management.

Executive Director Helmer explained that over the last number of months there had been discussions at the Recreational Trails Committee meeting about an initiative to restore and rehabilitate an old trolley line that used to run through the area that is now part of the West Morris Greenway at Hugh Force Park. Staff has had meetings with representatives of the United Railroad Historical Society, Liberty Historic Railway and the Borough of Wharton.

Many of us are well aware that Wharton has done a fabulous job in obtaining not only historic preservation money at the state and county level but also state transportation money to really bring back a gorgeous piece of the Morris Canal and the lock tenders area in Wharton. We know working with Wharton on a number of events specifically Wharton Canal Day, the types of visitation that very small area in Wharton is receiving, as part of their annual program.

When Mr. Bill McKelvey and his group came to the Park Commission not only did they bring ideas but energy and as will be discussed materials and equipment and a vast knowledge on how this project really can come to fruition. The project will need the Park Commission's assistance in acquiring two easements along the former rail line that are held by a local Wharton/Roxbury business. Mr. McKelvey is here today to provide a presentation that he has shown to Executive Director Helmer and the Borough of Wharton. An aerial map of the area will be shown at the end of the presentation.

Part of the discussion is related to land that the Commission has acquired along the West Morris Greenway which was part of the former Trolley Line. Mr. McEelvey pass out some information that they had actually put together for the Borough of Wharton, and their main goal is to speak to the Morris County Park Commission to seek permission to proceed with their project.

Mr. McKelvey explained that the Wharton area is filled with railroads and phenomenal transportation history as outlined in the information passed out. They have also added to this packet information about the Trolley line that came up from Morristown and went to Lake Hopatcong and also a branch that went up to Wharton. Also in the illustration, there is marked out the Right of Way of the former Jersey Central Railroad of New Jersey that went up to Mount Hope Mine. Also indicated is Hopatcong Junction and the actual road bed that is available goes all the

way over to Chester Junction or Lake Junction where it connects with the freight lines of Morris County and New Jersey Transit. The Trolley Right-of-Way parallels the water section of Morris Canal in Hugh Force County Park.

Mr. McElvey further explained that the lock is actually 75 to 80 percent restored and they intend to restore it to be operational, so that eventually they will be able to have a boat that operates in that section of canal and goes through the lock and up into the basin above it.

Mr. McElvey's presentation illustrated that on the hillside is the right-of-way of Jersey Central. Mr. McElvey had two models of the trollies that they would like to use. The Jersey Central power line right of way is located in the center of this is the restored lock and on the right hand side would be the one trolley which would be the newer trolley which is approximately sixty-five years' old that is located in Boonton, being restored. The other model is the older 1917 vintage trolley cars of which the North Jersey Electric Railway Historical Society and they have two of those trollies and they have two of the newer ones as well.

Mr. McElvey's presentation contained many pictures of the trolleys and information regarding the restoration process of them. He showed pictures of the car barn that they propose be on the Right of Way they would locate it behind trees, he showed pictures of the barn photo shopped in to the Right of Way. The people in Wharton were concerned that this building would over whelm the park, but it is camouflaged. The letters on it Central Railroad of New Jersey they have they are cast iron letters about 2 feet high and they weigh about 35 to 40 lbs. apiece. They were rescued from the Central Railroad of New Jersey locomotive shop located in Elizabeth before it was demolished.

The right of way is two tracks wide so that there is room for the path to continue almost the entire length of the trolley line.

Mr. McElvey continued to show the Commission several pictures and illustrations of the area from many different angles. He also made several references of the parking lot and the views from there.

Mr. McElvey continued to explain what was contained in their information packet, which contained photographs, and letters of support from various railroad organizations in New Jersey. Along with those letters of support there was also a letter from the Canal Society of New Jersey, which is in favor of this project, and several brochures.

Executive Director Helmer then showed the Commission views of the parcels of land that we are working on, with various renderings, and phases of the project. He explained that there are couple of parcels of land that it would be necessary to make the extension of the line two of them are owned by County Concrete, a former Commissioner of ours is willing to take this presentation to the owner of the property and we have had some good luck with him in the past on some other projects, to obtain an easement to be able to connect the trolley line.

Another section is owned by New Jersey Transit and so that should be an easier run, and we will have to develop a relationship as well. We are also going to take another look at some of the other parcels, one is coming up as unknown and the other is coming up as County Concrete.

Executive Director Helmer explained that for the Land Acquisition Committee when Bill was referring to the house near the Trolley Court, this was the piece of property that we acquired a few years ago in Wharton and this is the area that the Trolley Court would actually erected. The next step would be for the Park Commission if it is united directly to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement to allow this partnership to occur and to allow to begin the process moving forward. If it is agreeable to the Commissioners Executive Director Helmer would like to reach out to the owner of County Concrete and propose this initiative.

Mr. McKelvey also stated that we would also need to gain permission from County Concrete to come through its property to deliver the Trolley cars. There is no other way to get them up on the embankment it cannot be done with a crane you will need to come in by truck and put them on the rail. You will also need permission to get the construction equipment in to build the building and to install the track you would have to come in through the private property.

Commissioner Lasser inquired as to the length of time it would take to lay the track, Mr. McElvey estimated that it would probably only take a couple of weeks for that to be done. He further stated that they have four miles of rail, they have all the track parts, the joint bars, the bolts and spikes, the only thing they would have to do is to buy some new ties, that are environmentally friendly to put in. At this point Mr. McElvey showed the Commissioners a short DVD from Wharton Canal Day, at which time he further discussed the project.

Mr. McElvey concluded his presentation with a request that the Park Commission consider their proposal and they seek permission to move ahead with the Borough of Wharton to put up the building and install track and to upgrade the Trolley Car, along the canal section of Hugh Force County Park.

President Cass-Schmidt inquired as to how the Trolley is actually powered. Mr. McElvey responded that it is powered electrically and their intention is to have a small generator on a four-wheel car towed behind it to provide the power. Long term they would eventually like to put up the Trolley wire which is what they traditionally operated on. The group has all the wire and polls. Commissioner McCarthy inquired if the group had permits to begin the construction. The permits are being held up by the Borough of Wharton until Park Commission approval is received. All of the details would be worked out through the Borough of Wharton, permits, fees, zoning, etc.

Executive Director Helmer explained for the new Commissioners that Hugh Force Park began with the preservation of Irondale Mountain. Irondale Mountain would be the property located north of the tract. The Park Commission partnered with Wharton Borough and we contributed funds to that project and retained an easement on the property and at the same time entered into a 25-year management agreement with the Borough of Wharton, to maintain the property itself.

Overtime Wharton as you can see with the restoration of the Canal areas has taken on a great role even with that 25-year management agreement, but we maintain the pond are of the Canal not the

area where the pontoon boat is located which used to be an ice skating area, but we maintain the parking lot and have continued to protect and acquire land on either side of Wharton for the West Morris Greenway. The intent from a hiking perspective is actually to go from Chester Borough the Hermitage where Patriots' Path meets the West Morris Greenway and take you all the way out to Jefferson Township. We have sections of the trail along the old mineral railroad bed, this is a pretty good link a lot of the trail usage has gone down below to the Canal bed where all the activity is happening. Wharton is very supportive of this and I think that it enables them to attract folks into their community and they are going through a reassurance and it is a really good project.

Vice President Shepard asked how often they envision the Trolley actually running. Mr. McElvey stated that they envision it running on Sundays, and it would be with volunteer help. As interest and demand grows they could expand it to Saturdays, most likely Memorial Day to Labor Day. Eventually when Wharton gets a Canal Boat on that section that would draw school groups and school busses could come in there during the week and at that time they would have to figure out what volunteers who could operate the Trolley during week days. Eventually it would have to have paid employees and there would have to be a fee charged to ride the Trolley to help support the operation, the cost of fuel, etc.

Executive Director Helmer asked for the Board's approval so that Counsel Suminski could start drafting a Memorandum of Understanding. President Cass-Schmidt asked for a motion which was made by Commissioner Seabury and seconded by Commissioner McCarthy. Which was passed by a unanimous vote.

PROMOTION AND BUSINESS ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Commissioner Edward G. McCarthy, Chair

Director of Parks and Visitor Services Biase reported that at the last Promotion and Business Activities Committee meeting an Archery Field Evaluation Committee was established to discuss and review potential sites for possibly developing an Archery Course to be constructed for use in one of the parks based on the request and presentation provided by the New Jersey School of Archery at the July Workshop meeting. The Committee consists of Kristin Biase, Mark Gara, Kelli Kovacevic, Sean Lynch, Russ Nee, Lindsay Robertson, Chief DiPetro, and Lt. Chris List. As part of the review staff is evaluating seasonal maintenance costs, safety concerns, proximity of electricity, and interaction with other park users.

The locations that were evaluated are; Central Park of Morris County, Lewis Morris County Park Former SLAP Area, multiple locations at Mahlon Dickerson Reservation, Schooley's Mountain County Park, Tourne County Park as well as Mount Paul Memorial County Park.

The sites were narrowed down to Camp Washington at Schooley's Mountain County Park and the fields at Mount Paul Memorial County Park. At both sites there was no immediate parking and Camp Washington there is a large gravel parking area adjacent to the Lodge at Schooley's Mountain County Park. Restrooms were not available at either site so a portable restroom facility would be needed. There is electricity at Mount Paul. There is no electrical access at Camp Washington, the level of interaction with the general public is minimal at Mount Paul, there is some interaction at Camp Washington since it is extremely close to the nearby municipal fields.

Some of the comments regarding Mount Paul, that it is probably the least labor intensive to get that site ready for this group, it has good access for the archers, Park Police really liked the area at Mount Paul because they see the area on two sides as they drive by, whereas Camp Washington is back in the woods. Mount Paul is more visible and they liked that area. They also felt that Mount Paul would work out well when the NJ Interscholastic Cycling program uses Mount Paul.

Camp Washington is a 300- foot by 100-foot area and it just fits at Camp Washington it is really close and there is a little bit of a buffer area and if we put it there we would have to put up fence to keep the kids from going out into the archery course. The area at Mount Paul was the area that the Committee liked the best. This area would enable us to actually have them shoot in a way that they would be able to have a larger buffer area for their arrows on either side there is a shed already there, we would have to put a gravel parking lot in, there is already electrical on the ground. Kelli Kovacevic felt that there may be one neighbor that we might have a problem with but he is still far enough away that it should be a concern.

Commissioner Seabury inquired if all the deeds had been checked. Executive Director Helmer stated that the only restriction that may occur over time is if the group may want to do an indoor facility would be the only issue. You could also put a restroom in here but it would all have to be done aesthetically pleasing and not counter to the sight itself. This type of activity is fine, since it is passive in nature.

Commissioner McCarthy inquired if they would be shooting towards Route 24, Director Biase stated that yes they would but there is 300 feet so there is more than enough room.

President Cass-Schmidt inquired if there was anything at the park presently, Director Biase responded that currently there is nothing there. Executive Director Helmer stated that this is one of the sights that for years we had been trying to put together a bid for mowing. At one point we had the test plots for the American Chestnut grove was located in this area. Commissioner McCarthy inquired if they would use as parking the area where the old house was demolished. Director Biase also stated that there would be enough parking for 15 cars.

Executive Director Helmer stated that with the NICA program there would probably have to be field parking on the fields and not have a huge gravel lot for a couple of tournaments.

Executive Director Helmer feels that the next step would be to have staff reach out to the group and get their prospective on the locations.

Commissioner Seabury asked if there were any plans to notify the neighborhood, Executive Director Helmer stated that as we move forward we could look into sending an informative email to the residents along Fox Chase Road. We will still need to discuss this with the Archery club, there could be a distance issue, etc.

Executive Director Helmer will have staff reach out to the group, with all Commissioners being in agreement.

CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE

Commissioner Julie Baron, Chair

Historic Sites Unit

Assistant Director of Historic Sites Laffey provided a presentation on the historic collections of the Park Commission along with a review of the Mount Hope Church Restoration Project for the new Commissioners and also to seek recommendations for the proposed future use of the National and State Historic Registered Site.

Collections are comprised of; Objects such as; decorative arts, furniture, clothing/textiles, tools/equipment, vehicles, and architectural salvage; Images such as; photographs, tintypes, negatives and slides; Archives which include; manuscripts, diaries, maps, and blue prints; and Libraries with published books, research material and special collections. Collections can be further defined as Working and Historic. The Park Commission's Collections are located in 30 different buildings at 15 park facilities. Staff has begun a large scale assessment project which they hope to complete by early 2017. At that time the Commission will be provided with specific numbers relate to how many objects, images, archives, and Library pieces are in the collection.

The second item to be discussed will be the De-Accession Policy which will be reviewed with the proposed changes discussed as the last Cultural and Educational Committee meeting. This is an important policy which is why they will spend more time on showing the Commission some of the items that you could potentially make decisions about with the policy.

Commissioner Lasser asked what happens going forward and we keep accumulating items, Curator of Collections and Exhibits Bump responded that the get that type of question all the time. The Park Commission is now in the process of finalizing a specific scope of the collection which is defining what we collect versus specific sites. We don't have the storage and we don't have a use for a lot of the items and because of that we are very specific and have gotten much more specific over time as to what we will accept for a specific site.

Commissioner Lasser inquired as to what percentage of our items is generally on display, Curator Bump indicated that typically in the Museum World usually typically at any given institution 10 percent is on display. She feels that we do more than that because of our historic houses and how they are decorated and she feels that we are probably closer to the 30 or 40 percent.

Curator Bump further explained the process of formally accepting items into the collection which is referred to as accessioning, she then went onto discuss how you would formally remove something from the collection which is the process of de-accessioning.

Just as we shouldn't come to the decision of accepting something into the collection lightly we also should not come to the decision of removing it lightly.

Curator Bump continued an in-depth presentation of the De-Accession Policy along with the explanation of the forms that go along with any de-accession.

Commissioner Lasser inquired if the Park Commission has the right to sell something that has been a part of a collection. Curator Bump responded that when an item is formally given to the Park Commission, they sign a deeded gift giving the item over to us. We are then able to do what we want with it unless there was a restriction.

Curator Bump did tell the Commission that they will be starting an extensive restoration in the Estes House, and this would be a good time to re-evaluate the collection that is stored in a few areas and de-accession some of the items.

Assistant Director Laffey responding to a question regarding our inventory, stated that we do have a good control of what items are located in what collection, an inventory was performed in 2005 and every two years we go back and do another inventory. Assistant Director Laffey also stated that any revenues that may be raised from the selling of an items those funds go back into caring for that collection, otherwise you open yourself up to ethical and potentially legal problems when you are selling off items.

After the presentations, Executive Director Helmer informed the Commission that Superintendent Leslie Parness will be retiring from the Park Commission on February 1, 2017, and both Lynn and Melanie will become more involved with the Rare Book Collection at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum. The replacement that we find for Superintendent Parness may not have the 15-year experience with a Rare Book Collection and we want to make sure that it is conserved properly, so there is a possibility that in the future we may have the Rare Book Collection fall under the responsibility of Assistant Director Laffey from a conservation standpoint.

Assistant Director of Historic Sites Laffey reviewed the current status of the Preservation Plan for the Mount Hope Miners' Church and a brief history of the building and the Park Commission's role in the preservation of Iron Mining Heritage. The Church is located in close proximity to Rockaway's Ford Faesch House and the former New Leonard Mining Complex. The Park Commission acquired the Church in 2005 because of the significance of the building; one of the few buildings remaining in Morris County and the historic Mount Hope Mining District reflecting the culture of the mining community and its related industries, interior has virtually no modernization, well documented history and fulfills a need for a cultural resource within Morris County and the Highlands Region devoted to preserving/interpreting the iron-mining heritage.

Natural Resources Unit

Superintendent of Natural Resources Kovacevic gave a brief update on the inventorying process of the Ash trees throughout the park system. As of this year the EAB has been found in two additional NJ counties Hunterdon and Essex County, bringing the total number of counties up to 8.

Three counties surrounding us now have it and those are Essex, Hunterdon and Somerset all have the Emerald Ash Borer and they are slowly making its way towards us and will probably be here very soon.

Since the summer they have moved on to 11 facilities and they have a total of 2100 trees that have been tagged, this has been done through 252 hours of field work primarily by two seasonal staff, and some volunteers who did some work at Schooley's Mountain County Park; and they have also done approximately 65 hours of data entry. We have a volunteer from Drew University who is helping us with that two half-days a week.

The bulk of the trees has been found at Fosterfields, which is mainly because of all the open trees and the wood lines around them contain a lot of Ash trees. Lewis Morris County Park was a close second with 504 trees, and there are some areas at Lewis Morris County Park that we have to go back to and inventory so there is a chance that Lewis Morris may come back up to the top of the list.

Schooley's Mountain is in the 300's and we are just finishing up Black River County Park and it looks as though there will be 250 trees there between the Kay Environmental Center, Bamboo Brook and the Willowood Arboretum.

Superintendent Kovacevic stated that every time an assessment of the condition of the tree is taken they use a four-point scale of dead through good so the majority of the trees are in the fair category over 800 of the trees were rated as fair, but there is a good number of trees rated poor, those tree seem to be concentrated at Lewis Morris and Fosterfields.

Also being collected is the potential targets if the tree were to fall, so they have been put in multiple categories and so far the most targeted would be fence then mostly followed by road, then going down the list there are a lot of trees that have been found by trails and we haven't started inventorying our trails these are just trails that are in high risk area. There are a lot in our passive recreation areas, parking lots, Fosterfields is the category that has pastures, and there are a lot of trees in those areas. Our active rec fields have almost 300 trees so far and a good number around utility lines and then some crop fields, playgrounds private property and ball fields.

Superintendent Kovacevic provided some of the maps that they are producing with this data, using colors to display how many trees that are in each of the sections that are surveyed.

Superintendent Kovacevic continued with her presentation further outlining the process that will take place to identify trouble areas. Along with presenting more maps on trouble area.

They will start doing Mahlon Dickerson Reservation shortly, and they have hired another intern for this project which will enable them to have two teams to perform the inventory, at least through November and December.

Vice president Shepard asked if they were able to estimate the age of the very large trees. Superintendent Kovacevic has estimated that some of them could be about 100 years old. Vice

President Shepard also wanted to know if there is a percentage of trees that are ash versus non-ash trees.

Superintendent Kovacevic stated that the Forest Inventory Analysis done by the Federal Government has a breakdown but for the norther Counties the Ash tree is the bulk of the forest.

Superintendent Kovacevic then gave an overview of developing a Community Forestry Management Plan. The Commission approved the development of a Community Forestry Management Plan which would allow the Park Commission to apply for grants thru the program to aid with forest inventories, tree remediation and tree planting projects.

Commissioner Lasser inquired as to the length of time before we would start noticing the devastation of the Ash trees, Executive Director Helmer stated that we already have a number of how many are in poor shape. Superintendent Kovacevic stated that we would probably be seeing it in this area in approximately 3 years.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Executive Director Helmer informed the Commission on the following:

Director of Recreation Fauci presented the Commission with a request for a fee reduction for indoor boat storage at Lee's Marina. The indoor boat storage fee is \$475.00 and there are already four boats stored in the Garage Building which is at capacity. The request is to store a 24' rowing shell which would be hung from the ceiling. The individual is asking for a reduced rate for storing his boat since it would not be taking up any floor space. Director of Recreation Fauci is recommending that the Commission charge \$275.00 for this instead of the \$475.00 for foot space. The Commission was in agreement with the recommendation. The

Executive Director Helmer informed the Commission that it was awarded NJ Historic Trust Grant in the amount of \$13,200.00 for the silt plate repair at the Cooper Grist Mill.

A request was received from the Town of Morristown who is submitting a 2016 NJ Transportation Alternatives Program grant for the Martin Luther King Promenade Transit Connection Project. They are seeking a letter of support from the Park Commission for the project which includes improvements in the area of the trail head for Patriots' Path on Martin Luther King Ave. The Commission requested that Executive Director provide a letter of support for the project.

Park Police responded to a raccoon issue along the Innamere Section of Patriots' Path in the Morris Township. Sergeant Parrillo dealt with the matter and the skull was sent to the NJ Department of Health and the raccoon was found to be rabid. Morris Township sent public information literature to area residents on how to respond to rabid raccoons.

The Morris County OEM through the FEMA Program is hosting a sports and special events incident management program on December 6 and 7. Park Police and various staff members from Recreation and Parks & Visitors Services will participate in the program.

Executive Director Helmer attended a County Planning Department meeting last week regarding a proposed development project planned on Hanover Avenue across from the Mennen Sports Arena. The development will include a large retail box store and a traffic light will be placed to line up with the Arena entrance along with a cross walk. The developer is anticipating the project will be completed April of next year.

Recently in US Skating Magazine two of our long-term pros are written up about celebrating the 40th anniversary of their participation in the 1976 Olympics.

Executive Director Helmer was contacted by Joe Dunn of the Morris County Soil Conservation District, a number of years ago they hosted what was called an Envirothon at Schooley's Mountain County Park and they are asking once again if they could utilize the facility potentially May 2017. This program involved approximately 30 or 40 teams of high school students and 40 to 50 staff and they go through 6 stations about learning the environment. Soils best management practice, wildlife, etc. Park Commission staff does not participate in the program; it is merely a use request. Since the Commission has supported this event in the past it would do so again and ask the findings of the event be provided to the Natural Resources staff.

Last week Executive Director Helmer and Curator Bump met with a group of individuals who want to support the potential Greystone Monument. The meeting was held with Robert Kirkbride, who is a dean and associate professor of architecture at Parsons School and is a descendant of Thomas Kirkbride who was the designer of the building. They are supportive of raising funds and aiding us in that process.

After the workshop meeting the Finance and Golf Committee will be meeting to review the proposal submitted for the Golf Management Agreement, 4 vendors participated in the tour and only 2 submitted including the current contractor.

PARK DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Commissioner Julie Baron, Chair

Director of Park Planning & Development Chaplick and Manager of Park Maintenance Weisnet provided a status report on the improvements being made to the Night Camp Area located in Lewis Morris County Park and accessed from Tempe Wick Road by Leddells Pond Dam. This is an overnight group camping site with 11 tent platforms. There used to be three areas to the site, but Super Storm Sandy wiped out one of the areas completely which has never rebuilt it. The site currently has Area A and Area B. The improvements being made to the site incorporate recommendations based on the 2014 ADA audit and are being partially funded by a \$32,000.00 REI grant. The Buildings and Construction staff and Park Maintenance Crew have been collaborating on the project over the past two months as time permits.

The project includes two tent platforms that are now ADA accessible, there is now a tent location that is ADA accessible and a parking location that is ADA accessible. There is a porta john that will now be ADA accessible. The two tent platforms will also have ADA accessible fire pits.

Some trees were taken down for configuring the entry road was refreshed with new gravel and stone, better defining the pathways and routes for ADA access. A 20' x 20' tent was also incorporated into the site. In area A staff is constructing an Adirondack shelter similar to the one at Mahlon Dickerson Reservation, which is ADA accessible. Staff is also investigating the possibility of putting the well back into operation again, using a solar power system.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Cass-Schmidt asked for a motion to move to adopt Resolution No. 102-16 placing the Commission meeting into closed session pursuant to provisions of N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (5), (6), (7) - and (8), the pertinent provisions of the "Open Public Meetings Act." The motion was made by Commissioner [redacted] and seconded by Vice President Shepard [redacted] and unanimously adopted by roll call vote. (Attachment No. 1)

CONSIDERATION OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS

Park Counsel Suminski reviewed matters related to Pre-employment contracts used during the hiring of Park Police Officers.

Chief of Park Police DiPietro reviewed the status of the Sergeant's exam process noting three officers have passed the written test and will move along to the oral interview process. The Personnel & Safety Committee will be interviewing the candidates prior to the October 26, 2016 Commission meeting.

Executive Director Helmer asked Park Counsel Suminski to review NJ Assembly Bill No. 3874 which Provides for county-municipal courts with limited, county wide jurisdiction.

The Commission meeting returned to an open public meeting on the motion of Commissioner Baron and the motion was seconded by Vice-President Shepard and unanimously approved by voice vote. The items discussed in closed session will be printed as part of the minutes.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Cass-Schmidt adjourned the meeting at 12:36 p.m. on the motion of Vice President Shepard and was seconded by Commissioner Lasser and unanimously approved by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

David D. Helmer

Executive Director

Katherine Petro
Office Manager

MORRIS COUNTY PARK COMMISSION
RESOLUTION NO. 102-16

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Morris County Park Commission on this 11th day of October, 2016 that:

1. Prior to the conclusion of this regular meeting of the Morris County Park Commission, which regular meeting has been opened to the public, the Morris County Park Commission shall meet in Executive Session, from which the public shall be excluded, to discuss personnel matters, land acquisition, and report of counsel, as permitted pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (5), (6), (7), and (8), the pertinent provisions of the "Open Public Meetings Act."
2. The time when the matters discussed pursuant to paragraph #1 hereof can be disclosed to the public is as soon as practicable after the final resolution of the aforesaid matters.

October 11, 2016

MORRIS COUNTY PARK COMMISSION

Betty Cass-Schmidt
President

_____, I, David D. Helmer, Executive Director of the Morris County Park Commission, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Morris County Park Commission at a meeting held on October 11, 2016, at the Cultural Center, 300 Mendham Road, Morristown, New Jersey.