

Cultural and Historic Affairs Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 10, 2012

The Bethany Beach Cultural and Historic Affairs Committee held a meeting on Tuesday, April 10, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. in the Town Meeting Room, 214 Garfield Parkway, Bethany Beach, DE 19930.

Members present: Carol Olmstead, who presided; Gloria Farrar; Jan Kinsella; Theo Loppatto; Mary Lou Urquhart; and Margaret Young.

Absent Members: Mary Lou McNerney and Jean Wode.

Also present: Ray Disney, Producer of the Oral History Project DVD; Lindsey Good, Administrative Secretary.

Call to Order

Ms. Olmstead called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

Approval of Minutes from February 07, 2012 Meeting

The Committee made two (2) amendments to the minutes. Ms. Loppatto made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Seconded by Ms. Farrar, the motion was unanimously approved.

Oral History Project: Update with Ray Disney

Ms. Olmstead introduced Mr. Ray Disney, who is conducting all of the interviews and producing the DVD of the Oral History Project, to the Committee members. She also presented the CD case that was created by Mr. Disney

Mr. Disney explained that fifteen (15) people have been interviewed, and all of the interviews are various lengths. The Committee has not yet reviewed the most recent five (5) interviews that have been conducted, so he will send them to Ms. Olmstead.

Mr. Disney acknowledged that the process of editing the interviews will take much less time if they are transcribed using speech recognition software or a transcribing company. This way, he and the CHAC members could review the transcript to see what information they would like to include on the DVD.

Ms. Olmstead advised Ms. Good, Assistant Town Clerk, to contact a transcribing service to inquire on services they could provide for this project.

Mr. Disney noted that he is going to incorporate photographs into the footage of the DVD, while audio of the interviews are taking place, which will maintain the viewers' interest.

Ms. Olmstead acknowledged that this project's purpose is not to promote the Town, but it is to serve the purpose of capturing the memories and common experiences of those who have lived in Bethany Beach.

Ms. Olmstead asked Mr. Disney if his vision is to create the order of the DVD so it is one person after another or assort it by the topic being discussed. Mr. Disney replied that he was considering showing the introductions of each of the interviewees first, and then follow the introductions with categorized segments of various topics.

Ms. Olmstead emphasized that the Oral History Project should focus on stories of the Town, and not personal stories of individuals.

Mr. Disney stated that this project will take only a few more weeks to complete. He will keep in touch with Ms. Olmstead on his progress. Ms. Olmstead commented that they have not yet listened to the audio of all of the interviews that took place. Mr. Disney will give her the remaining interviews to listen to with the Committee.

Ms. Olmstead and the Committee members expressed their appreciation to Mr. Disney for all of this hard work and dedication towards this project.

Announcements

Ms. Olmstead reported the following:

- The Cultural Event on April 10th featuring Mr. Russell McCabe as the guest speaker was a success, and the attendees were very pleased. The topic discussed was the Delaware Historical Trail. A book on the Delaware Historical Trail is being published and will be available to purchase at the end of May. The slide show that Mr. McCabe presented will also be available on the website and she will e-mail it to the members.
- The next Cultural Event will take place on Tuesday, May 8th, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. The featured guest speaker will be Mr. Tom Ryan and the topic being discussed will be on Women of the Civil War. Ms. Farrar volunteered to set up for this Cultured Event. It be advertised in black and white in the Coastal Point newspaper prior to the event, and they will ask the newspaper to write an article on Tom Ryan and the topic being presented. The event will also be posted under the Calendar of Events on the Town's Website.

Museum Docents Program for 2012

Set Meeting Date for Orientation

Ms. Olmstead stated that she e-mailed the letter to the docents that CHAC reviewed and approved at the last meeting. So far, she has received a response back from Dale Dunn, who has volunteered as a docent for many years.

Ms. Olmstead mentioned that Ms. Lisa Kail, Town Clerk, also sent out the notice on the list serv, and one additional person has volunteered.

The Committee scheduled a docent meeting for Monday, April 23rd, 2012 at 2:00 p.m.

Ms. Olmstead will ask Ms. Kail to e-mail all of the docents to let them know the meeting date.

Committee Volunteer to Coordinate

Ms. Kinsella and Ms. Urquhart volunteered to coordinate the museum docents.

Periers Day

Action Items Time Line

- Newspaper articles regarding Periers' Day: Ms. Kinsella will contact local newspapers and provide them with information so they can write an article on the event. She will send the newspaper the information a few weeks in advance.

Ms. Olmstead shared with the Committee a letter that she wrote, which could be included in the information that Ms. Kinsella will be sending to the newspapers. After some discussion, Ms. Olmstead stated that she will condense the letter so that a little more brief.

- Ms. Loppatto is going to contact Ms. Diane Cowell to inquire about a special display on Periers' Day, which will include pictures.

Resolution for Town Council

Ms. Olmstead presented the drafted Resolution to establish July 27th of each year as "Periers Day" in the Town of Bethany Beach. The members reviewed the Resolution and agreed that it was well stated.

The Resolution is as follows:

***Resolution to Establish July 27th of Each Year as
"Periers, France Day" in the Town of Bethany Beach***

Whereas, the Town of Bethany Beach has recognized Periers, France as its Sister City

Whereas, July 27th is recognized as Liberation Day in Periers, France and the citizens of Periers view this day in a positive way since it was on July 27 1944 that Periers was liberated by the 2nd Battalion, 359th Infantry Regiment, 90th Division, of the United States Army

Whereas, the citizens of Periers have welcomed American soldiers and their family members who have visited the Town for these many years

Whereas, the Bethany Beach Cultural and Historic Affairs Committee has recommended the establishment of "Periers, France Day"

Therefore be it hereby resolved that the Bethany Beach Town Council hereby established July 27th of each year as "Periers, France Day" in the Town of Bethany Beach

This shall certify that this is a true and correct copy of the Resolution duly adopted by a majority of the Town Council of the Town of Bethany Beach at their regular meeting held on April 20, 2012

Ms. Olmstead will submit the Resolution to the Town Council for discussion, review, and consideration of approval at this month's Council meeting.

Ongoing Projects Update

The Committee reviewed and discussed the following ongoing projects:

- Notecards: Ms. Olmstead presented the notecards for this project. There are a few bids that were submitted in the past that can be renewed.

The note cards will have photos of historical places in the Town, and it should not take too much time to complete.

Ms. Farrar questioned if these illustrations of the houses are the only existing resources.

Ms. Olmstead explained that copies of these drawings can be made. The pictures can be scanned onto a computer, and write-ups of the photos can be added.

Ms. Farrar advised that the Committee obtain a bid from Coastal Printing.

- Large Map: Ms. Olmstead noted that the ideas of reproducing the large map onto place mats and framed art on an eggshell background were previously discussed.

Ms. Farrar recommended that the Committee focus on the note card project first and after it is completed, begin on the large map project.

- Ms. Olmstead presented the following two new projects to consider:
 - A copy of the land deed of Bethany Beach Improvements in 1902. Ms. Loppatto suggested that this would be a good addition to include with the Oral History Project DVD. Ms. Farrar expressed that having this land deed available to buy would be more interesting than the other map. Ms. Olmstead suggested that it could be sold rolled up with a ribbon around it to secure it.

- Bill of Sale: This document provides the original outlay of the Town. The Committee agreed that this document is very interesting, and would be a more resourceful product than the land deed document.
- Label holders for the pictures on the walls of the Town Hall: Ms. Loppatto presented samples of label holders from Gaylord, Inc., a company that produces creations for many museums. She explained that the 2” by 4” (two by 4 inch) cards are \$14.00 and the 4” by 6” (four by six inch) cards are \$16.50.

Ms. Farrar asked if Gaylord, Inc. would complete the printing of the labels.

Ms. Loppatto stated that they would not be responsible for the printing of the labels.

The Committee ensued a discussion on what size the labels should be and where the best area would be to mount them.

Ms. Olmstead is going to count the number of pictures are on the wall in the hallway and see how many of each dimension there are, and then the Committee will continue planning. She will add this discussion item to the agenda for next month’s meeting.

Ms. Loppatto will obtain information on modifying the layout of the photos so that they are portrait, and acquire answers to the questions asked by the Committee members.

- News Articles: Ms. Kinsella stated that she and Ms. Urquhart will be working on this project this project at the Town Hall on Monday, April 16th at 10:00 a.m.

Adjourn

Ms. Urquhart made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Ms. Young, the motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 8th, 2012 at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lindsey Good
Administrative Secretary

