

**Historical Preservation Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
May 20, 2025**

Meeting Called to Order (Time 7:09pm)

Reading of Open Public Meeting Act.

**Members present:** Chairperson Laura Olstein, Dave Wilding, John Cannie, Patty Shragin, Borough Historian and Corresponding Secretary Tom Kline, SOSAC liaison Scott Kruger  
**Absent:** Vice Chairperson Jim Roselius, Council Liaison Ron Reckler  
**Friends:** None  
**Guests:** Nikki Loveland (via phone)

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion to approve the April 15, 2025 minutes made by John Cannie and seconded by Patty Shragin, all in favor, none opposed; Tom Kline abstained.

**Maintenance Manual:** Jim Roselius-Tabled until June

**Old Business:**

**Morris County Historic Preservation Trust (large grant money):** John Cannie-First resolution to accept a bid is passed-just has to be amended. Contract will be awarded. Contract came in within expected budget. Next step is pre-construction meeting-Joe Niosi, John, maybe Tom to attend as well. Big issue-do what with contents of museum? Large items should go in container-papers and artifacts also? Is container water-tight? Push everything into the middle and cover?

**Morris County Heritage Commission History Re-Grant Program (small grant money):**  
Laura Olstein-Submitted grant, waiting to hear.

**Budget:** Tom Kline-All looks good. John Cannie-Michael did a lot of work to clean up Past Perfect. Very amenable to make it look like a very professional database. He's been gardening/brush work with Caryl and Nora as well.

**Building and Grounds Report:** Laura Olstein for Jim Roselius-. 1) For his senior project, Matthew Wagner wanted to power-wash the picnic tables and bench, sand them, then paint the picnic tables turquoise. Took table to his house since no power in the building. Possible weeding also. In case he wants more to do-there's an electric panel box outside the building that has multiple plugs-would need an extension cord and DPW would have to turn on the water. Porch gets a lot of pollen dust on it-he could hose it down and scrub it. 2) Joe Niosi said termite inspection TBD. 3) Trugreen said complete eradication of knotwood would be expensive, so DPW will continue to cut back. 4) Joe will send copies of maintenance logs to Jim. 5) Patty and other members met with the Garden Club-only 2 people showed up. They actually build gardens not maintain them so not what the committee is looking for. 6) Wanted to maybe make it a learning experience. While museum still closed, have possible garden topic lectures, meet on porch, maybe intergenerational summer programs with younger kids and their grandparents- to get them used to coming to the museum again. Or plant an herb garden to tie in with Dr. Miller's vision. Ask high schoolers too not just Scouts. Scott-SOSAC thought that Kinnelon might not need a community garden because personal properties already big enough-might have enough room for it at the museum? 7) Are there easements on the property? Talk to Ray Chang to find out what can and cannot be done at the property. 8) Schedule workshop for Wednesday June 4<sup>th</sup> at 10am.to discuss-include report from other clubs (use social media).

**Friends Report:** Laura Olstein-Final version of new by-laws is done. **Executive board in place-6/11 election**

**Caryl 30 minutes to an hour once or twice/week-gardening.**

**Pathways:** Laura Olstein-Event was at the beginning of May. L'Ecole was the founding museum-will participate again.

**Research & Collections:** Patty Shragin-1) Got footage of Kinnelon being on the Russian news. Her husband was in the World Trade Center when it was bombed and was interviewed by the Russians after 9/11, then 10 years later they came back to re-interview him, while walking around in Fayson Lakes. 2) Spoke to videographer who used to do oral histories at her old company-maybe he could interview Harry Hicks (90 years old). She can ask him if he's interested. Also perhaps interview Lydia Schmidt-has lived in Fayson Lakes for 61 years. Chris Speck-Has a photo collection of Fayson Lakes in the Smithsonian-maybe he would want to donate something to the museum? Maybe he could interview his mom? 3) John D'Angelo is 99 years old (former boro judge). He has stories! Perhaps structure interviews and tell them in advance what will be discussed. Libraries have standard packages for those who want to do oral histories. 4) Past Perfect meeting-what is the best way to add in historical info? Get 10 user licenses so can have multiple people contribute. July time frame to get over to Past Perfect-have to re-number all the records. Also want to come up with a standardized practice of entering everything into Past Perfect.

**Scout Projects:** On hold until museum can re-open.

**Social Media:** Laura Olstein-Will have meeting with Nikki on Thursday-she has lots of experience with social media.

**Special Programs Report:** Tom Kline-Explore a lecture from a master gardener in a workshop.

**Staff Report:** John Cannie-Michael did a lot of work to clean up Past Perfect. Very amenable to make it look like a very professional database.

**Technology Report:** John Cannie-Could put together a time-line, starting with geology-the oldest rocks in New Jersey are here. Use as discussion piece. September 20<sup>th</sup>-SOSAC doing a clean-up, maybe have people meet at the museum first, to keep the museum in the public eye? Launch party, maybe as a Christmas activity? Decorate the house and invite the public as a formal opening? Also celebrate the birthday party/anniversary in May? Put calendar together of upcoming events to plan.

**Comments from the Borough Historian:** Tom Kline-1) Acquired 2 new books for museum-Old English Sheepdogs by Morris Kinney and one on historical objects as found in NJ farms. 2) Boy Scouts cleaned out Frederick's cemetery-also Jackie from Fayson Lakes helps out there too. 3) Frank Lloyd Wright designed a house for someone in Smoke Rise but it was never built. Tom downloaded original drawings of house-on the end of Beechwood Terrace. 4) Tom has 35mm cameras given to him that were used at KHS-any interest for museum? 5) Tom was given access to huge quantity of maps and drawings of different sub-divisions, mostly Smoke Rise. One was a blueprint done by Harold W. Levitt who designed the Frank Lloyd Wright house on Beechwood Terrace. 6) Asked to write a history of the Stone house on Robin's Lane. 7) Francisco blacksmith shop on Boonton Avenue-according to a deed description the Francisco's never owned it. 8) Council planning on re-doing the war memorial. Took pictures before it gets knocked down. Although there was a resident who served in the Korean War, there is no memorial so the flag pole at the North Gate has a plaque instead. 9) Meeting with Elmer Bott re: Van Ness Cemetery off Jardine Lane. 10) One of the stone pillars was knocked over at Mt. Evergreen Cemetery on Kinnelon Road. Looking to see if it can get put back up. 11) On the boro website under the

History of the Borough of Kinnelon, it has Lake Rickabear associated with the Rickers-not true-Tom spoke with one of the Rickers for confirmation. Will recommend they take it off the website.

Laura-The fire company asked if the museum would be interested in an old Kinnelon firefighter respiratory mask and an old brass fire extinguisher-acquire for collection? Yes.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 17, 2025 – 7:00 pm**

**Adjournment:** Time 7:55pm. Motion made to adjourn by Jim Roselius and seconded by John Cannie. All in favor, none opposed.

*At the June 17, 2025 meeting, on a motion by Tom Kline and seconded by John Cannie and the affirmative voice vote of all members present, the May 20, 2025 minutes were approved.*

*Shirley M. Galcer*