



Draft Minutes
Delaware Heritage Commission Meeting
Delaware Public Archives – Dover
August 7, 2019

Members in Attendance:

Richard B. Carter, Chair
Thomas Brown
Charito Calvachi-Mateyko
Janice A. Durham
Dr. Reba Hollingsworth
Michael Houghton, Esq.
MGen. Francis A. Ianni
Stephen M. Marz
J. Everett Moore, Esq.
Harvey B. Rubenstein, Esq.
Dr. Bradley Skelcher
Sarah B. Williams
Sylvester Woolford
Terrence K. Wright

Support Staff:

Suzan Olenik
Dr. Courtney Stewart – Department of State
Thomas Summers – Delaware Public Archives

Guests:

Jeanne Covert – Berkana Center
Chris Kenton – DE Law Related Education Center
Michael Oates – 302 Stories

Chairman Carter called the Delaware Heritage Commission meeting to order at 2:07 p.m. on Wednesday, August 7, 2019 at the Delaware Public Archives.

BUSINESS AGENDA

1. **Greetings** – Chairman Carter welcomed members.
2. **Approval of the June 5, 2019 meeting minutes** – Michael Houghton made a motion to approve the minutes with the correction adding Dr. Reba Hollingsworth to the members in attendance listing, seconded by Sylvester Woolford. The motion was unanimously carried.
3. **Financial Report** – Dr. Courtney Stewart explained that all of Sally Williams calculations regarding the Del-One accounts and CD's have been incorporated into the Financial Report. Chairman Carter informed the commission that the General Assembly allotted the standard amount of \$14,700. In addition, a \$50,000 allotment for the Women's Suffrage Commission is being held under the Office of Advancement for Women. An additional \$40,000 is expected to be added to this number for the Women's Suffrage monument.
4. **Report on Investments and Reinvestments of CDs** – Sally Williams reported that the last of the stock funds had been invested in a 5 year CD @ 2.76% interest. This CD will mature in 2024. The Heritage Commission board members thanked Sally for her work getting these investments updated.

5. **Heritage commission funding FY20** – Discussed during the Financial Report section of the meeting.
6. **Grant Application for video on Delaware’s roll in Apollo mission to the moon** – Ms. Jeanne Covert of the Berkana Center for Media & Education, Inc. and Mr. Michael Oates, of 302 Stories requested funding in the amount of \$4,000. for their oral history filming project that documents the three Delaware companies that contributed to the Apollo 11 mission to the moon (ILC, DuPont and Gore). The product of this project will be widely distributed throughout Delaware, and it is hoped to show on PBS. Currently, oral histories are being filmed, and the project will be finalized by the fall of 2019. Prior to the meeting adjournment the Terry Wright motioned for the Commission to approve this grant with the conditions that the Delaware Heritage Commission receives acknowledgement on the product and all promotional materials, and a copy of the video and all oral histories be donated to the Delaware Public Archives. Jan Durham seconded, and the motion was unanimously passed.
7. **Rubenstein grant application for “We, the People”** – Mr. Chris Kenton of the Delaware Law Related Education Center requested funding in the amount of \$4,000. to cover travel expenses for Delaware school students who travelled to the National Level competition held in Washington D.C. in Spring 2019. This competition traditionally is for Middle and high school students; however Delaware elementary school teachers are becoming involved. Prior to the meeting adjournment Michael Houghton motioned for the Commission to approve this grant, Harvey Rubenstein seconded, and the motion was unanimously passed.
8. **Theft of George White Historical Marker** – Steve Marz advised board that on June 23, 2019 the Delaware Public Archives dedicated the George White Delaware Historical Marker at Prices Corner, Delaware. This Historical Marker represented the historical and documented fact of the lynching in 1903 of George White, an African American. Less than six weeks later, this Historical Marker was stolen. Steve Marz has had next steps discussions with sponsoring Senator Darius Brown that focused on the marker’s immediate replacement. It was noted that some community members/interested public wished to donate funds for the marker’s refurbishment and installation *as a statement of support for the significance of the historical fact represented by this marker*. A process for receiving donations for this purpose has been established for donations to be sent to the Delaware Public Archives for this Historical Marker to be replaced. New Castle County Police are offering a \$2,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of those responsible for the theft. The DPA Director noted that Delaware Heritage Commission members will certainly be advised when the rededication ceremony for this Historical Marker is scheduled to be held.
9. **Discussion of possible book on Dr. Luna I. Mishoe** – Dr. Reba Hollingsworth is reviewing the rough draft of a publication by author, Dr. Gladys Motley about Dr. Luna Mishoe. Dr. Mishoe served as a member of the Tuskegee Airman, and was a brilliant mathematician. Dr. Mishoe was the president of Delaware State University from 1960 thru 1987. During this period the school reached an unprecedented expansion. Dr. Hollingsworth will advise Dr. Motley to check with Delaware State University for possible funding opportunities. Dr. Hollingsworth will also keep the Commission updated on the progress of this work.
10. **Ex-Officio Reports** – nothing of note.
11. **Update on Women’s Suffrage Centennial Sub-Committee** – Dick reported that the Sub-Committee has identified Saturday, September 26, 2020 as the date of the Dover parade and Women’s Suffrage monument dedication outside Legislative Hall. He

confirmed that Judge Susan DelPesco serves as chair of this sub-committee, and Syl Woolford, and Jack Young serve as co-chairs. All Heritage Commission members were invited to the next meeting of the Sub-Committee which will be held on September 10, 2019, 10am, Tatnall room 112.

12. Resolution on 400th Anniversary of Africans in North America – Dick Carter distributed Senate Resolution No. 61 regarding the 400th anniversary of the arrival of the first known enslaved Africans. Dick informed the Commission he is preparing a draft resolution for the group to review for the Delaware Heritage Commission to issue.

13. Chairmans Report

- Chairman Dick Carter was contacted by Mike McDowell regarding a Warner Mifflin publication he is working on with Gary Nash. They plan to apply for a Heritage Commission grant to assist with the layout services of this publication. Dr. Skelcher will provide Dick with Quaker organization contact information for additional grant opportunities to pass along to Mr. McDowell.
- Author Kennard Wiggins has prepared a comprehensive history on the Delaware National Guard. This publication spans from Colonial times thru to the present. Chairman Carter can provide a PDF of this publication to interested Heritage Commission members. Mr. Wiggins will apply for a Heritage Commission grant to assist in publication costs.
- Dick Carter, Terry Wright and Harvey Rubenstein advised the Commission that they have commenced the layout activities related to the Holocaust publication. The Commission suggested that the team investigate additional publication funding sources thru community groups and organizations. The Commission will receive updates as this project continues.
- The U.S.S. Delaware publication is in the final stages of edit and will shortly be ready to send to the printer.
- The Caesar Rodney Booklet is scheduled to be re-printed after the U.S.S. Delaware publication.
- Chairman Dick Carter advised the Commission of the upcoming Lewes History Book Festival that will occur on September 27 thru 29, 2019. Dick would like to once again take out a full page advertisement in the program for this event and highlight upcoming Heritage Commission publications. The cost for this is \$1500. Harvey Rubenstein called for a motion to approve this expenditure, Tom Brown seconded and the Commission unanimously approved.
- The Chairman advised the Commission he has been asked to speak at the Lewes Chautauqua on September 21 about Delaware Governor Elbert Carvel.

14. Other Business

- Mr. Spiegleman approached Dick Carter regarding the remake of the Caesar Rodney “Thunder and Rain” film that was produced many years ago. Mr. Spiegleman suggested using high school media center resources and students for this project. The Heritage Commission will be asked to assist in preparing the script and oversight of this project.
- The Library of Congress “Women’s Suffrage” publication was distributed to Commission members to illustrate what is occurring for this anniversary on the National level.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:58 p.m.

Next meeting will occur Wednesday, October 2, 2019.

Suzan Olenik