

**WARREN COUNTY MORRIS CANAL COMMITTEE**  
**c/o Warren County Department of Land Preservation**  
500 Mt. Pisgah Avenue, PO Box 179  
Oxford, NJ 07863

**October 6th, 2025**  
**MINUTES**

**Call to Order:** Mr. Lee opened the meeting at 5:32 PM.

**Roll Call:**

**Members Present:** Charles Fineran, Dave Detrick, Tim Roth, James Lee III and Paul Tarlowe

**Members Absent:** Randy Piazza Sr.

**Staff Present:** Elizabeth Roy

**Minutes:** Mr. Fineran motioned to approve the 8/11/25 meeting minutes (no meeting in July), seconded by Mr. Roth. All voted in favor. Mr. Detrick abstained. Motion passed, minutes accepted.

**Public Comment (on agenda items):** None.

**Correspondence/Communication:** None.

**Bills & Budget:** Mr. Lee commented that the committee is on track to meet the budget.

**Reports of Officers and Committees/Old Business/Land Preservation Project Updates:**

**Phillipsburg:** Mr. Detrick reported that there was graffiti on one of the new signs on Morris Canal Way, and that he will take care of it. Ms. Roy requested that Mr. Detrick send before and after clean up pictures of the signs.

**Pohatcong:** Nothing to report.

**Lopatcong/Plane 10 West/Lock Street:** Ms. Roy reported that the request for a second picnic table was passed on and would be addressed soon. Mr. Detrick asked if a new table needed to be built. Ms. Roy answered that there should be a table at Bread Lock Park that could be moved.

**Strykers Road:** Mr. Roth reported that WCPF held a work day at Strykers Road and painted the fence along the parking area, the stairs on Richline road, and the new railing in the Richline road parking lot.

**Port Warren/Plane 9 West:** Ms. Roy reported that on the 29<sup>th</sup> of September, SHPO had additional questions about the project that were answered herself and Mr. Lee. Mr. Lee agreed that SHPO should be satisfied with the explanation of the distinction between the original canal walls and the walls constructed by his grandfather.

Mr. Lee asked if there was an update about the bridge project. Ms. Roy answered that there was no new update. Ms. Roy reported that the county is waiting on approval for the pedestrian bridge. Ms. Roy reiterated that the county engineer's office is seeking a way to pause approval for driveway access to the Miller house, to move forward with the vehicular bridge.

Mr. Lee reported that he was visited by CHE Mechanical about a new furnace at the museum. Mr. Lee reported that a tour is scheduled in early November for the new NJ Youth Corps group.

Mr. Lee reported that he and Mr. Detrick are currently unable to attach the wing of the turbine due to the garage door being jammed.

Mr. Detrick asked if the historic trust grant was still active. Ms. Roy stated that there has been no approval for progress, so they have not been able to appeal to keep the grant active. Ms. Roy will contact the Historic Trust after they receive SHPO approval to request a grant extension.

**Bread Lock Park:** Ms. Roy reported that SHPO approved work to be done on the Nature Center site, and that Mr. Tierney presented the plans to the Franklin Township Land Use board which went very well. Ms. Roy reported that there is still work to be done on the storm water and septic plans, but that the bid package for the project should be out by the end of the year.

Mr. Lee asked for an update on the proposed work for the shop at Bread Lock Park. Ms. Roy answered that the design and construction plans for both the Nature Center and DLP Offices are being bid as one project.

Mr. Detrick reported that Warren County Parks Foundation held their annual volunteer luncheon, and spent four hours cleaning bat droppings out of the barn. There was a discussion about bat exclusion and managing the bat dropping issue.

Mr. Detrick reports that the pedestals for the signs at Bread Lock Park were painted and ready to be installed.

**Sigler Property and Hamlin Farm:** Nothing to report.

**Meadow Breeze Park Museum:** Mr. Detrick reported that the Museum at Meadow Breeze Park is well attended, and that teacher and student tour groups are scheduled.

**Port Colden/Plane 6 West:** Mr. Detrick reported that the mowing has been completed by neighbor Bruce, but that it needs attention this fall to mow the prism and paint infrastructure.

**Port Murray:** Nothing to report.

**Rockport:** Mr. Roth reported that the Parks Foundation has completed work on the trail, and it is just at a maintenance status now.

**Florence Kuipers:** Nothing to Report

**Bilby Road:** Mr. Roth reported that this site is established but needs to be maintained.

**Events/Education/Public Awareness:** Mr. Lee stated that the History Trail event on November 2<sup>nd</sup> will take have a stop at Bread Lock Park and volunteers will be present for interpretation.

**New Business:**

**Projects:** Mr. Detrick and Mr. Roth met with Joe at Waterloo to discuss the panels. Mr. Roth made a motion to approval the final panels, seconded by Mr. Fineran. All in favor. Panels approved.

Ms. Roy stated that she will get an updated quote from Mixed Media to fabricate the signs. Ms. Roy states that if the quote is now too high, the committee will need to select less panels to produce this year.

There was discussion about the Bread Lock Park story walk and other public facing signs and story walks.

There was discussion about promoting the Canal Animation video.

Mr. Detrick mentioned that the committee should begin planning for 2026 projects and goals. Mr. Fineran stated that more interpretive panels would support continuation of already successful projects. Ms. Roy mentioned that the Greenway Brochure has been out of print and needs updating.

There was discussion about permissions related to an old canal video, and Ms. Roy stated that she will investigate the permissions and the county's abilities to use it.

Mr. Detrick asked for copies of the Campbell Panels so he can create print outs for the museum. Ms. Roy agreed to look for the digital files.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held virtually on November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 5:30PM.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, Mr. Fineran made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Roth. All in favor. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 6:09PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Olivia Stettler

Staff Representative