



**I C O N**  
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planning

**To:** File  
**From:** Jonathan Lane  
**Subj:** Meeting of Oil Region Heritage Advisory Council  
Held at Venango County Courthouse Annex in Franklin

**Date:** February 16, 2006

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Purpose of the presentation was to show Heritage Advisory Council Members initial concepts for Preservation and Alternatives parts of the Management Action Plan Augmentation for the Oil Region NHA and to take comment on the work.

#### **Attendees**

Marilyn Black, ORA  
Toni Kresinski, ORA  
Warren Thomas, Venango County Regional Planning Commissioner  
Barbara Zolli, Drake Well Museum  
Neil McElwee, Oil City and ORA  
Gary Hutchison Venango County Commissioner  
Judy Downs, Venango County Regional Planning Commission  
Cecile Stelter, DCNR, Bureau of Forestry  
Jonathan Lane, ICON  
Rita Walsh, VHB

#### **Notes**

**1.** Jonathan Lane and Rita Walsh presented status report to the Heritage Advisory Council – with Powerpoint show.

#### **1.**

~~**2.** Marilyn Black noted attendance at Heritage Alliance meetings in Washington where there is great pressure to reduce scale of commitments to Heritage Areas and to allocate a lump sum to the group of Heritage Areas that would require competition. Marilyn also noted that Pennsylvania Heritage Parks Association has approved M.O.U. to co-locate in a building with Preservation Pennsylvania in Harrisburg.~~

#### **3.2.** Comments on maps

- a.** Preservation work should recognize that businesses are leaving the core urban areas in ORNHA.
- b.** Make sure the information from SHPO GIS is incorporated into the maps. Rita noted that this source had been consulted.
- c.** Amalie Refinery should be shown on Franklin.

#### **4.3.** Comments on preservation priorities

- a.** Need to incorporate reference to resources and history that were before oil history – sawmill remnants, iron furnaces, military, river, fur trading. People buy in to the

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early history. These early industries also bring in families – such as [Kier](#), Watsons, Hydes – who made their money and then moved into oil.

#### **[5.4](#)** Comments on Alternatives

- a.** Gary, Barbara, Warren, and Neil supported the idea of focus as expressed in Alternative 3. Rationale was to achieve focus with ORNHA efforts.
- b.** Marilyn and Judy expressed preference for more open-ended approach that is inclusive of the county as a whole (Alternative 2) as a means to engage the entirety of the area.
- c.** Jon Lane noted that Alternative 3 did not exclude remainder of the county; it just places the highest priority on core area resources and linkages between them. It is also important to note that the linkages pass through many of the small communities.
- d.** Discussion that will have to wait until public has had an opportunity to comment after the meeting this evening. Heritage Advisory Council ~~may have to~~[will](#) reconvene to discuss [on March 17](#). ICON expects to receive guidance from client on this.