

**West Goshen Township
Historical Commission Meeting
1025 Paoli Pile**

**Minutes
Thursday, February 23, 2017 at 7:00 pm**

Commission Members:

Present: Michael Pilligalli, Kevin Pistiner, Kent Smith, Richard Davis, Elizabeth Dean, Shelagh Purnell, Edward Tiernan, Thomas Walsh

Absent: Nancy McCabe, Christine Suhadolnik, Charles Ulmann

Others Present: Hugh Purnell - Board Liaison, Ken Lehr - Park and Recreation, James Christ - Paoli Battlefield, Dr. Douglas R. White - Resident

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Vice President Michael Pilligalli on behalf of President Nancy McCabe.

Roll call of members present

Secretary, Kevin Pistiner, recorded all meeting attendees.

Reading of minutes of last meeting

Pilligalli reviewed and approved minutes of January 26, 2017.

Officers reports

No news to report.

Committee reports

No news to report.

Agenda

Bicentennial Celebration

Lehr discussed that the primary bicentennial celebration event will occur on June 3, 2017 with a rain date of June 4, 2017. The event will begin at 2:00 pm at East Goshen Township Park. The formation of an official list of events is still in progress. Some of the performances that will be included in the celebration are the East High School Drum Core, War of 1812 reenactors, and a political duel reenactment. The celebration will not include a parade due to logistics. The United States Navy Band will not be available to attend the celebration due to prior commitments.

One of the main events on that day will be a petition signing reenactment. This event will include local representatives who will sign the petition that separated Goshen Township into East Goshen and West Goshen. After the signing, the documents will be framed and placed in both

East Goshen and West Goshen's township buildings. Children who attend the event will also receive their own copy of the township petition. The singing will be held indoors at the Chester County Chamber of Commerce located on Paoli Pike across from the East Goshen Park.

Pilligalli mentioned that he could lend six Windsor chairs for the signing. We should have at least one supervisor from each township to participate in the signing. The event should also include someone to represent the judge who presided over the original petition.

Lehr mentioned that we should begin to create sponsorship levels for corporate and private donors. The funds will be distributed by the Friends of West Goshen Parks, but donations may also be made directly to the township. West Goshen Township will begin to meet with local businesses to discuss event sponsorships. The bicentennial celebration responsibilities have been divided between West Goshen and East Goshen with West Goshen primarily overseeing financing.

Christ mentioned that a pamphlet should be made of the event schedule with sponsor logos. Passing out the pamphlet at the celebration would ensure attendees are aware of the scheduled events, while also promoting the supporters of the celebration.

Dean mentioned that we need to secure at least 66 volunteers to assist with the celebration at East Goshen Park. Singer Kevin Pierce will perform the National Anthem and other patriotic songs during the event. Historic Sugartown will provide family activities, including paper binding.

Davis suggested that we should include tents for local history-related organizations to promote themselves. Some of the organizations could include the Newlin Grist Mill, Chester County Historical Society, Historic Yellow Springs, Chris Sanderson Museum, Colonial Pennsylvania Plantation, and Wharton Esherick Museum.

Summer 2017 History Events

Hugh Purnell discussed that the Delaware Valley Oldsmobile Club will host a car show on May 20, 2017. The car show will occur at West Goshen Township Park between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm. An entry fee will be required for anyone entering their car into the contest. Residents may also display their vintage car for free without participating in the contest. A Hurst shifter display will also be at the event. Anyone who wishes to enter their Oldsmobile into the car show contest or wishes to display a vintage car may contact the club.

Creation of Bicentennial Subcommittee

Subcommittee enacted to plan reenactment of petition signing on Saturday, June 3, 2017 at the Chester County Chamber of Commerce. The subcommittee will consist of Chairperson Pistiner, Dean, Smith, and Walsh.

Announcements

Chester County Historic Preservation Network

Dean mentioned that CCHPN will hold a spring workshop on Saturday March 11, 2017 at the Brandywine River Museum.

Chester County Town Tours and Village Walks

Walsh mentioned that they are seeking volunteers to participate in the summer-long event. Walking tours will be held every Thursday evening in a different town throughout Chester County. They are seeking tour guides and event assistants.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Pilligalli moved to adjourn the meeting. Smith second the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin Pistiner
Secretary