

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

**Minutes
Thursday, June 22, 2017**

Commission Members:

Present: Nancy McCabe, Michael Pilligalli, Kevin Pistiner, Kent Smith, Richard Davis, Elizabeth Dean, Thomas Walsh

Absent: Shelagh Purnell, Hugh Purnell, Edward Tiernan, Charles Ulmann

Others Present: Kenneth Lehr (Park and Rec), James Christ (Paoli Battlefield)

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President Nancy McCabe.

Roll call of members present

Secretary, Kevin Pistiner, recorded all meeting attendees.

Reading of minutes of last meeting

McCabe motioned a vote, which was second by Dean, to approve the meeting minutes of May 25, 2017. Commission members approved the meeting minutes with a 7-0 vote.

Officers reports

No news to report.

Committee reports

No news to report.

Agenda

Chester County Historic Preservation Network (CCHPN)

West Goshen Historical Commission has been awarded the 2017 Grace Under Fire award for establishing a historical commission within the township. Historical commission members will be recognized at the annual CCHPN dinner, which will be held on June 28, 2017. West Goshen Township has generously agreed to cover the event ticket cost for historical commission members attending the ceremony.

Living History Day

Lehr mentioned that we are still seeking food trucks to attend the township's living history day event on August 6, 2017. Any food trucks are welcome that do not directly compete with the concession stand. The event will include a military reenactment from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm, a nineteenth-century-style baseball game from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm, and a music

concert beginning at 6:30 pm. A limited number of volunteers are still needed to assist with the event.

Christ mentioned that they will teach and demonstrate visitors about the evolution of the gun, cannon position formations, and other military related activities.

Dean mentioned that we should advertise the living history day on the CCHPN website.

West Whiteland Town Tour and Village Walk

McCabe mentioned that the West Goshen Historical Commission is co-sponsoring the West Whiteland historic walking tour, which will be held on July 20, 2017. Visitors will travel between stations along the walk to learn about the history of West Whiteland. Volunteers are needed to guide visitors to each station along the walk.

Historic Matlack House

Dean mentioned that work is being completed on the exterior of the Matlack House situated in front of the Chester County Government Services building located at 600 Westtown Road. Dean is waiting for a requested report detailing the renovations planned for the house. No signs or notifications have been posted in front of the house.

Bicentennial Celebration

Lehr mentioned that the celebration was successfully implemented and well attended by residents of the area. About eight-thousand (8,000) people attended the celebration throughout the day and four-thousand five hundred (4,500) people were in attendance for the fireworks display. Attendees were very engaged in the Battle of the Clouds presentation. The parade and historical reenactments were very well planned.

On Behalf of the township, Lehr thanked the Goshen Fire and Police who were very thorough in organizing the traffic throughout the event. Lehr also thanked everyone who participated in the bicentennial celebration, including McCabe who dressed in period clothing, Davis for photographing the event, Walsh for overseeing the oral history station, and a big thanks to Bonnie Dean for all of the planning that she completed to ensure that the celebration was successful. Walsh thanked Lehr and the West Goshen Township staff for their support and encouragement throughout the process.

Walsh mentioned that the oral history station was not as well attended as planned. Lehr mentioned that we could plan an oral history night at the township building for residents to share their stories and experiences related to the township. We may be able to meet with East Bradford Township to learn about how they planned and conducted their oral history night event. Davis mentioned that we may be able to bring the video recording equipment to people who are not able to travel to the township building, which would increase the number of people willing to participate in the event.

Pistiner mentioned that we had limited time to research the people involved in the township separation. We will continue researching the event to gather more information about the

judges and residents who participated in the separation. Smith mentioned that the surveyors were not residents of Goshen Township, which offered impartial assistance when separating the township land.

Lehr mentioned that he has several copies of original township maps that will be displayed in the township building. Dean inquired and proposed that the historical commission receive a designated wall space within the township building to display permanent and rotating exhibits related to the township history.

Announcements

McCabe announced that Charles Ulmann has resigned from the historical commission due to a limited amount of time available to devote to the organization. Two (2) commission member positions are currently open. Anyone who wishes to be considered for a position on the commission may submit their resume to the historical commission.

Adjournment

There being no further business, McCabe moved to adjourn the meeting. Walsh second the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin Pistiner
Secretary