

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

**Minutes
Thursday, February 22, 2018**

Commission Members:

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

Absent: N/A

Others Present: Hugh Purnell (Board Liaison), Kenneth Lehr (Township Liaison)

Call to order

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

Roll call of members present

Secretary, Kevin Pistiner, recorded all meeting attendees.

Reading of minutes of last meeting

Pilligalli motioned a vote, which was second by Walsh, to approve the meeting minutes of January 25, 2018. Commission members unanimously approved the meeting minutes.

Officers reports

Treasurer Kent Smith mentioned that he will check if the Historical Commission's CCHPN dues have been paid for the year.

Committee reports

No news to report.

Agenda

Historic Photograph Display

Lehr mentioned that he is progressing on the project to display historic photographs at the Township Building.

Tree City USA – Arbor Day Foundation

Hugh Purnell mentioned that the Historical Commission should consider applying on behalf of the Township to be recognized as a Tree City. The program encourages communities to preserve and expand their tree canopy. Four criteria need to be met in order to qualify as a Tree City with the Arbor Day Foundation: maintaining a tree board or department, having a community tree ordinance, spending at least \$2 per capita on urban forestry and celebrating Arbor Day. The township currently completes most of the criteria except for appointing a person to oversee the Township trees and officially celebrate Arbor Day annually.

Dean mentioned that this project should be completed by the Park and Recreation Board. The Historical Commission does not have any experience with this subject. A tree board should be created by the Township Supervisors who would oversee this project.

Pilligalli mentioned that the Township does not have an ordinance for historic preservation. We should focus on that before moving on to the idea of a tree preservation ordinance.

Tiernan mentioned that Willistown Township places site development and vegetation preservation completely separate from historic preservation. Their vegetation preservation is linked to storm water management and other engineering efforts.

The Historical Commission decided to oppose the petition of applying for the Tree City USA designation. This action will be available to pursue by other boards of the Township, such as the Park and Recreation Board, that has more experience in this subject.

West Goshen Township Comprehensive Plan

McCabe mentioned that the Historical Commission should submit our current list of Class I, II, III, and IV Historic Resources in the Township. The document should be included in the comprehensive plan.

Pistiner mentioned that he will contact the Comprehensive Plan Board to present the list of historic resources.

Township Newsletter

Pistiner mentioned that he will submit an article for the spring newsletter about the preservation of the Matlack House. An article highlighting the loss of Bishop's Lodge will be submitted for the summer newsletter.

Lecture Series

Hugh Purnell mentioned that he has scheduled to have a lecture at the Township Building on June 28, 2018 about the Museum of the American Revolution. This lecture will take place one month before the Township's bus trip to the museum.

Lehr mentioned that Jim Christ will present a lecture on Chester County's involvement in the Revolutionary War on the morning of the Township bus trip to the Museum of the American Revolution. The lecture and bus departure will be at the Township Building.

Dean mentioned that she will plan two autumn lectures by local historian and author Bruce Mowday as well as the Chester County Historical Society.

West Goshen Historical Commission

February 22, 2018

Page 3

Chestnut Grove Cemetery Tour

Walsh mentioned that progress is being made on finalizing the tour. Details of the event should be included in the next Township newsletter.

Announcements

CCHPN Annual Dinner

Dean mentioned that the date for the event will be determined soon. It will take place at Historic Yellow Springs.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Smith moved to adjourn the meeting. Dean second the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin Pistiner
Secretary