

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

**Minutes
Thursday, August 24, 2017**

Commission Members:

Present: Nancy McCabe, Michael Pilligalli, Kevin Pistiner, Richard Davis, Elizabeth Dean

Absent: Kent Smith, Shelagh Purnell, Hugh Purnell, Edward Tiernan, Thomas Walsh

Others Present: Kenneth Lehr (Park and Recreation), Keith Smith, Dr. Douglas White

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

Pilligalli motioned a vote, which was second by Dean, to approve the meeting minutes of July 27, 2017. Commission members approved the meeting minutes with a 5-0 vote.

Officers reports

No news to report.

Committee reports

No news to report.

Agenda

Chester County Historic Preservation Network Award

McCabe presented the Historical Commission's award plaque at the meeting. It was recommended that the plaque be presented at the next Township Supervisor meeting.

Living History Day

Lehr mentioned that the event was successfully organized and well attended by community residents on August 6, 2017. Attendees enjoyed watching the nineteenth century-style baseball game, historic military reenactors, and a concert performance by the Upper Darby Sousa Band. Unfortunately, no food trucks attended the event.

Davis photographed the event for the Commission.

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Historical Commission Website

Currently, the Historical Commission is not provided with a page on the new Township website. Lehr mentioned that we need to contact Casey LaLonde (Township Manager) to resolve the problem. Dean mentioned that the new website may have been created based on an old template designed before the Historical Commission was displayed on the website.

Pistiner mentioned that we should create a new Facebook page to connect with members of the community. We will also be able to announce new events, Township research, and other Historical Commission information. Historic photos of the township can be posted and encourage people to guess the location.

Matlack House

Dean mentioned that a stone mason is in the process of restoring the exterior of the house. A new roof is also being installed on the house. The house was built in or around the year 1760 and is currently located on approximately one acre of land. The future use of the house has still not been determined. Chester County Court of Common Pleas President Judge has met with the Matlack House committee to discuss the progress. We are still not aware of who has been appointed to the committee. Dean mentioned that Historical Commission members and county residents should send ideas about the future use of the house to the Matlack House committee and to the Chester County Commissioners (Michelle Kichline, Kathi Cozzone, and Terrence Farrell).

Keith Smith mentioned that we can use the Facebook page to publicize the Matlack House project. The page can also be used to display ideas generated about the future use of the house.

Township Building Exhibit Space

Lehr mentioned that the Historical Commission is welcome to design and install an exhibit related to the history of the Township. The exhibit, which could include documents, photographs, and maps, could be displayed for two months each year.

Class I Historic Properties

McCabe mentioned that the Commission has a list of properties in the township that qualify to be on the National Register of Historic Places. We should revisit the list and create a plan for registering the houses.

Township Comprehensive Plan

Dean mentioned that the Township has not completed a comprehensive plan for many years. Dr. White mentioned that the last comprehensive plan of the Township was completed in 2004. The Historical Commission should be involved in the new comprehensive plan, which begins in October 2017.

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New Business

American Revolution Museum, Philadelphia, PA

Dean mentioned that she toured the museum and discovered that the Battle of the Clouds was missing from the exhibits. We need to present information about the event to the museum curators and encourage them to add it to future exhibits.

The Historical Commission should plan a bus trip from the Township to visit the museum. This would include a tour of the museum, tour of the surrounding area and notable sites, and additional free time for lunch and exploring.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Dean moved to adjourn the meeting. Pilligalli second the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin Pistiner

Secretary