

Historical Commission Minutes

November 15, 2016

Commissioners in attendance: Maureen Noonan, Kristine Gordon-Watson, Ann Bedrick

Guests: Marty Raser, Alison Mallamo

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.

1. Minutes and Correspondence

The September 20, 2016 minutes were approved.

Outgoing correspondence was a letter to the BOS recommending Gary Wills to fill a vacancy on the commission.

Incoming was the following announcement by Chester County Planning: We need your help. The Planning Commission is now underway with the update to Landscapes². The Board of County Commissioners has tasked the Planning Commission with performing a thorough review and update. Landscapes³ will provide continuity to the Landscapes legacy and its implementing programs, while recommending additional ways to keep Chester County great. You are now able to access plan-related information and participate in a variety of ways throughout the update process. The first phase, #TellUsL3, includes a public photo contest and a series of meetings with topic experts to learn about valued county resources and the challenges and opportunities facing Chester County. To date, five stakeholder topical meetings have been held: preservation, agriculture, housing, utilities and infrastructure, and transportation. The findings of the #TellUsL3 phase will help guide the plan update. Come join us to make a difference in Chester County.

We are also seeking responses to a public survey about issues and priorities.

If you haven't already done so, please take a few minutes to provide your responses and share with others: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PA_community_connections)

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Note to all: Please participate in this survey by copying and pasting the address included above. The survey is also available at chescoplanning.org under Planning News, Landscapes 3.

For details about Chester County Landscapes 3 Photo Contest see chescoplanning.org site, as above, or the CCPC Facebook page. Prizes will be awarded; deadline is Nov. 25, 2016, 12:00 PM.

PA State Historic Preservation Office (PA SHPO) sponsors one of the meetings of this project on November 17, 2016, at Arch Street Meeting House in Philadelphia. Commissioner Maureen Noonan plans to attend.

2. Community Day in Warwick Park

Maureen, Ann and Alison reported on Community Day in Warwick Park, Saturday, September 24, 2016. The shared ENHC and F&PCCT table attracted attention, which was due in part to Maureen's displaying a #1 size Warwick Furnace Iron Stove, ca.1805-10 and Ann's sharing her relevant art and knowledge. Iron making and the charcoal process were hot topics, and many EN Township and local books sold by the EN History Society.

3. HC's page on the ENT Website

HC's page on the ENT website draft was accepted by the BOS at the October 2016 meeting. The logo and content are still in the development process. Webmaster Ed Bacon will be invited to our next meeting to fine down details of the final draft,

4. HC Vacancies

The Historical Commission still recommends Gary Wills to fill a vacancy on the Commission. This nomination was brought to the attention of the BOS by letter before the November 9, 2016 meeting, when the BOS stated that any positions will be filled at the January meeting. Carol Heilner, recommended for a position by the BOS, has respectfully declined.

5. Restrictive Covenant Update

Pat Kaiser's restrictive covenant is near completion with Bob Wise establishing a baseline, with complete architectural specificity and Pat-approved changes, a garage and a patio. Township Solicitor Tom Oeste, in the September 6, 2016 BOS meeting, suggested different terminology ("façade easement" rather than "restrictive covenant") and clarification of township's enforcement being restricted to the exterior of the building. In effect EN Township's holding the façade easement on Pat Kaiser's schoolhouse would be attached to her property's deed. At the November 9, 2016 BOS meeting, when Supervisor Wren made a motion to present Oeste's now revised document, which

reflected the previously requested adjustments needed before approval, Supervisors Jenkins and Loomis refused to even second this motion, again leaving Pat Kaiser's historic preservation-minded request unsettled. Coming to the rescue within days, the EN History Society has now agreed to hold the façade easement. Already citizens of the township are providing funding to the History Society.

6. Further Review of Article XVI

The status of Nantmeal Village Historic District has been Class I since its National Register of Historic Places designation in 2014. This designation makes possible grant funding more easily accessible.

7. Reprint Update

Smale's Printing, which reprinted *The Forgers* with the addition of a new forward page and a two page addenda of corrections made by Dan Graham, has agreed to print these three additional pages in a stapled, plain-edged package. Owners of original 1976 copies of *The Forgers* will soon be able to purchase these updates via the EN History Society.

8. October 18, 2016 talk by Daniel Graham

For the second time this year, Daniel Graham delivered a highly informative talk, this one entitled "Coventry, Reading and Warwick, Northern Chester County's Colonial Furnaces." Over 50 people attended, and again many EN Township and local books were sold by the EN History Society.

9. Info Received about Historic Resources

At the November 9, 2016 BOS meeting, Maureen asked Chuck Cutlip, the zoning officer, if there were any permits concerning historic resource properties. Chuck identified one of the eight listed under "Permits Processed"--- permit #16-052ent, the Nantmeal Rd. addition to HR #51, which has been under construction.

Solicitor Oeste said that Mr. Montgomery, the owner of the barn at 3463 Conestoga Road, agreed to put up a perimeter fence around this dangerous property. He has yet, however, to follow through. The condition of this barn had prompted East Nantmeal to a filing currently "in the Chester County Court system." Oeste said the court will order owner Montgomery to either demolish or stabilize the barn. This case is #26 on the Judge's schedule.

Maureen reported that the historic Warwick Furnace Rd. County Bridge #199 was reopened November 5, 2016, with the County still painting the structure. Hopefully better signage further limiting the weight and length of vehicle restrictions will be erected by the agencies involved. The most recent damage was caused by a very overweight and oversized tractor trailer.

10. Historic House Plaques

Ann and Kristine worked to find info at the CCHS Archives October 27, 2016, with more work scheduled. Located in the Chester County Government Services Center, the Chester County Archives is administered by Chester County Historical Society in cooperation with the County of Chester.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Kristine Gordon-Watson, Secretary