

Historical Commission Minutes

March 21, 2017

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

Guests: Marty Raser, JoAnn Domanski, Tori Lingg

Meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM.

1. Minutes

The February 21, 2017 minutes were approved.

2. Town Tours, 2017

East Nantmeal will take part in Town Tours and Village Walks, Tour #10, an August 17 lecture at Warwick County Park, and optional self-drive tour, focusing on General Washington's encampment in this area after the Battle of the Clouds and the role the region and its resources played in the American Revolution. There will be a trio of presenters, Historian Robert Selig, Warwick Township Supervisor Charles Jacobs, and a representative of the French and Pickering Creeks Conservation Trust. Registration, time to be determined, will be in a pavilion, with the lecture at 5:30 PM in the inside meeting room and refreshments and follow-up at 7:00 PM. Volunteers from ENT will need to be on hand for registration, etc.--details to follow.

We discussed the map needed for this event. Ann Bedrick will draw this map, which will include relevant local sites for the Town Tour participants to follow. Karen Marshall, CCHPN, will take care of making the copies.

3. More on Warwick Furnace Area

JoAnn brought and shared more vintage, local furnaces material, including an 1897 newspaper (*The Princeton Union*, Princeton, Minnesota) article on Warwick Furnace and a booklet of nine drawings by Nancy Blackman Thompson with brief write-ups, entitled *Ironmasters' Houses* (1973, Lukens Steel Company). Thanks, JoAnn!

4. Report on CCHPN Workshop

Maureen Noonan attended the CCHPN March 11, 2017 workshop, "True Life Adventures in Historic Preservation," at the Brandywine River Museum. Among the presenters---Shelby Splain, Outreach&Education Coordinator, State Historic Preservation Office, PA Historic and Museum Commission, explained the many resources that SHPO and PHMC can provide in the quest for preservation of

historic places, including the helpful SHPO website pahistoricpreservation.com and the name of our Community Preservation Coordinator, Cory Kegerise. Jeannine Spears, Senior Community Planner, Chester County Planning Commission, discussed basic guidelines of state codes and preservation ordinances. Jim Garrison, AIA and East Pikeland HC Chair, inspirationally related the development of his township's impressive new preservation planning model. Maureen will provide copies of the workshop's informative materials for the archives.

5. Info about Endangered Historic Resources

From Township Solicitor Oeste: Mr. Montgomery, the owner of the barn at 3463 Conestoga Road (HRMap #275), has put up a perimeter fence around this dangerous property. The Chester County Court judge who reviewed this case (unfortunately) ordered that Mr. Montgomery demolish the barn by April 30, 2017, or be held in contempt.

The owner of Hause's Store (HRMap #29) did contact Alison Mallamo, History Society, about this property's history and agreed to photographs being taken. Gary Wills brought his photographs of the interior of HRMap #29 to the February 21 meeting. Alison will talk to the owner further about securing the building.

Maureen will look into locating previous nomination forms, from the late 1970s, for the Cupola Furnace District, part of which was located in East Nantmeal.

The former Shantz Mill (HR#82) at Fairview Rd. and Rt. 100 was briefly discussed.

6. ENT Historic House Plaques

Ann Bedrick reported that the early date of her house is 1730 and that research has taken Kristine's house back to 1787 so far. More work at the Archives is scheduled.

7. Correspondence

Karen Marshall sent the 2017 Heritage Events Calendar which will be forwarded to township web site for posting. (See "Latest News" on opening page for April events, with more to be added.)

Karen also forwarded from A. Frantz, SHPO, a Society for Historical Archeology article, "Abandoned Burial Grounds." (See article on this Society's informative website: sha.org) The topic of the often-neglected

importance and relevance of archeology to knowing an area's history arose during the recent CCHPN Workshop.

8. Additional Items

April 18, Tuesday, 7:00 PM: Victoria Laubach, Director of Welkinweir, and HC's Ann Bedrick will speak on the Morris Tilt in lieu of our April 18 meeting. Green Valley's Association at Welkinweir (HRMap#79, originally the house of the forgemaster, Edwin Morris) is purchasing the forge, the Morris Tilthammer (HRMap#80).

Suggestions were made for future speakers. Two possibilities mentioned were Wade Catts, the archeologist who spoke at the CCHPN March 11 Workshop, and Jim Garrison, an East Vincent HC Chair, who has written a book about the work and impact of noted 20th century architect R. Brognard Okie on the understanding of early domestic architecture.

Evie announced that the Philadelphia Herb Society's Annual Herb Sale will be at Historic Yellow Springs, Thurs., May 11, 10 AM-1 PM.

Since Tuesday, May 16, is Election Day, the usually scheduled Historical Commission meeting is cancelled.

The CCHPN Voluntary Recognition Ceremony will be June 28, 2017 at Historic Yellow Springs.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.
Kristine Gordon-Watson, Secretary