

Historical Commission Minutes

March 19, 2019

The Tuesday, March 19, 2019 meeting was called to order at 7:16 PM.

The Commissioners present are in **bold**: **Ann Bedrick**, Diana Cormack, Mark Dzuban, Kristine Gordon-Watson, **Alison Mallamo**, **Maureen Noonan**, Gary Wills. Guests present: Tory Lingg, JoAnn Domanski, Marty Raser, Peggy Hartzell and Robert Johnston

1. Minutes

Approval of last month's minutes was tabled until the next meeting due to the lack of a quorum tonight.

2. HC Committee Report, BoS Meeting March 13, 2019

Maureen gave the following HC report: The HC met Tuesday, February 19, 2019. Approved minutes will be posted on HC webpage.

HC will host these speakers: Dan Graham, April 16 and Richard White and Steve Somers, May 22, the day after Election Day, May 21.

Also PennDOT has reviewed and revised plans for Browers Bridge on Mansion Rd. This project is now focused on maintenance and road bed renewal and does not involve a drastic disassembling of the bridge's walls, as previously announced. M. Harrower, District 6-0 Architectural Historian, sent this info Feb. 27 to East Nantmeal Township and Tyler Wren, along with the other Consulting Parties. PennDOT is interested in comments from the Consulting Parties until March 27. Comments about this new plan are greatly encouraged. The Supervisors expressed confusion about the receipt of the plans from PennDOT, so Maureen will forward this info.

Items from BoS meeting

EAC announced Cleanup Day is Saturday, April 13.

Owner Michael Montgomery now has until May 31 to remove barn (HRMap #275). To get this extension, Montgomery must produce a signed contract from his contractor stating that work will begin by April 15 and be completed by May 31.

The Ordinance Review Committee will reconvene Wednesday, April 17, at 7:00 PM.

3. Info about 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 supervisors, who issued a Notice of Demolition on August 29, 2018, now give him until May 31, 2019, to complete the condemnation order. One hope is that at least the barn's stones would remain local, ideally used in restoration projects.

Alison Mallamo is working with Bill March, Finney Road resident, who would like to assemble a group of volunteers to at least attempt to lessen further damage to historic gem, HRMap#029, the Hause Store, by throwing and securing a tarp over the structure's roof. Kevin McAfee would like to know if Sam Stoltzfus, who works for Kathy Leidy removing junk, could help with the tarp.

PennDOT's new plans for Browers Bridge on Mansion Rd were discussed. The Grosses would like speed signs. Maureen hopes to get a letter off to PennDOT by March 27 expressing this and our approval.

Robert Johnston, from the audience, related with pictures his story of reassembling the stone from a barn ruin belonging to Ester Altman on Murray School Road into a carriage house on his historic property (HRMap#76).

As Alison Mallamo got together info for the buyers, she wondered about the 1742 date, which was written on the HR Survey paperwork related to her Conestoga Rd. house. Ann mentioned that the date did not make sense with the time period of the road; others brought up that the style of the house was of a later time. Ann will look into this matter and let Alison know.

4. Ordinance Review Committee Meeting March 12, 2019

The definitions that were discussed at the prior meeting were reviewed with the written corrections supplied by Solicitor Oestes. Planner Grafton brought up to the committee the fact that our Comprehensive Plan was never updated as expected in 2012, and an update should be considered now. Tyler and Ed Bacon will inform the other two supervisors.

5. Spring Speakers!

Dan Graham will speak on the cannon of Warwick Furnace, Tuesday, April 16, 2019. He currently has a book about Warwick Furnace in the works.

Hopewell Furnace and Pottstown Manor and others are publishers and distributors of Dan's books, so he will not have any copies to sign for the audience. Suggestions were made to have a list of his books' titles, along with places these are available.

Richard White, archeologist for AD Marble and Society for Pennsylvania Archeology member, Steve Somers of Glenmoore will speak Tuesday, May 21, 2019. Both colonial artifacts and local items related to the area's earliest inhabitants are on the night's agenda. There will be an informal assessment of participants' artifacts, if time allows. Richard plans to use the projector, so this device needs to be checked.

6. Correspondence

The PennDOT project description to maintain and restore the historic Mansion Rd. Bridge was sent by Monica Harrower Feb. 27, 2019. Maureen has been in contact with Warwick Township HC about this development and about sending comments.

Maureen forwarded to all the PA SHPO's March 2019 Newsletter and the CCHPN Events Calendar. She notified Karen Marshall about the spring speakers to add to the Events Calendar.

7. ENT Historic House Plaques

HRMap #101 is still a work in progress. Ann has talked with local historian Jane Dorchester, and she will contact Dianne Cramm for another date assessment.

8. Cupola Furnace and Mill updates

Maureen previously received from April Franz, SHPO, guidelines about what information/process is needed for the state to determine if the Cupola Furnace and Mill District is even eligible to be considered for registration. We have the 1981 documents for this district, which were sent to SHPO who labeled them as incomplete.

In light of the daunting registration process, Maureen has recently emailed Seth Hinshaw and Jane Dorchester, asking for them to meet (separately) with the HC to share their approaches to their writing up the nominations for the Cupola Furnace and Mill District as well as the Marsh Village District, along with their review to update ENT's Historic Resource Survey. The HC will then be able to consider their ideas and make decisions about attacking these projects.

9. Historical Commission Page on Township Website

Maureen is still getting list of changes and improvements for the HC page together to send to Ed Bacon, ENT Website Manager.

10. New ENT Resident "Welcome Packet"

In consideration for such packets are maps of the Township and Nantmeal Village, information related to an Historic Resource property, such as the Chester County Historical Inventory Form from the 1989 survey from our archives, Finding History in East Nantmeal and the CCHPN Directory of Trades and Services for Historic Architecture.

Alison Mallamo plans to leave a welcome packet (a first!) of info for the new owners of her former historic Conestoga Rd. property, HR #147.

11. History Society

The need for a description of the History Society was briefly mentioned. Hopefully Alison will provide one to include on the website. Dues for the HS were also briefly discussed.

12. Additional Items

Kristine plans to attend the CCHPN Spring Workshop at the Brandywine River Museum of Art Saturday, March 23.

JoAnn said that she now has *The Ore Mine*, the long-past Warwick HS's student publication of local interest, on flash drive. She plans to give copies to Tri County

History Society in Morgantown and to CCHS for the archives. JoAnn plans to attend a photo digitalization workshop at the Chester County Library, Exton, April 29.

Peggy discovered and shared items related to long-ago East Nantmeal HS she found at a woman's shop in nearby Cedarville, such as the graduation program.

Tory Lingg shared Girl Scout cookies and news of the future casino in Carnarvon Township, very near Morgantown. The group wondered about the impact of this business on the area.

EAC-sponsored ENT Clean Up Day is Saturday, April 13. Safety vests, trash bags and work gloves are available for volunteers. The bags will be picked up by the road crew Monday. Let's keep our township beautiful!

This year's Old Time Plow Day begins at 10:00 PM, Saturday, April 20, at Nestorick's farm on Rt. 401. (ENT resident Robert Johnston, in attendance tonight, mentioned that he has participated for about ten years.)

CCHPN is sponsoring a showing of the film *Wyeth* at Colonial Theater Sunday, May 5.

CCHPN Volunteer Recognition Celebration is Wed., June 19 at CCHS. RSVP by June 12.

This summer's Town Tours, "Our Villages Then & Now," kicks off Thursday, June 13, in West Chester and continues Thursdays through Aug. 29. Ludwig's Corner is on for June 20; Warwick Village is on June 27. (JoAnn and Maureen are helping at the Warwick tour.) Brochures are available in the ENT lobby and in various places the County and online (chescoplanning.org--Click "Historic Preservation" under "Planning Resources.")

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM.

The next meetings will be the speaker events Tuesday, April 16, 2019, and Wednesday, May 22, both at 7:00 PM.

**Kristine Gordon-Watson, Secretary
Maureen Noonan, Chairperson**