

Historical Commission Minutes

August 20, 2019

The Tuesday, August 20, 2019 meeting was called to order at 7:08 PM.

The Commissioners present are in **bold: Ann Bedrick, Diana Cormack**, Mark Dzuban, **Kristine Gordon-Watson, Alison Mallamo, Maureen Noonan**, Gary Wills.

Guests present: Carlena Robison, JoAnn Domanski, Marty Raser

1. Minutes

The July 16, 2019 minutes were approved.

2. HC Committee Report, BoS Meeting August 14, 2019

Maureen gave the following HC report: The Historical Commission had a meeting July 16, 2019; the minutes will be posted when approved. On July 22 Marty Raser and a few HC members made an inventory notebook of Chuck Loomis' donation of archival material; a meeting with the donor to gather further information will be scheduled.

Items from BoS meeting

There was no mention of the beleaguered Michael Montgomery's Conestoga Rd. property on the building inspector's report.

The Ordinance Review Committee will reconvene September 10, 2019, at 7:00 PM.

3. Info about Historic Resources

Mr. Montgomery, the owner of the barn at 3463 Conestoga Road (HRMap #275), has yet to comply with the Notice of Demolition, issued August 29, 2018.

4. Ordinance Review Committee Meeting, August 6, 2019

HC members Kristine and Maureen once again the only in attendance, besides ORC members Ed Bacon, Dave Maugle, Tyler Wren and Wayne Grafton, Land Planner. (Kristine and Maureen met with Tyler Wren at his request just ahead of this meeting and discussed Historic Resources Ordinance matters.)

Tyler began the meeting with the following: Article XVI, Historic Resource Protection Standards, was summarily addressed; the ORC agreed to remove the underlined phrase in the following section of the Ordinance:

Section 1601 B 1

For any property shown on the Historic Resources Map, the requirements and opportunities contained in this Article shall supersede, with the consent of the landowner, the otherwise applicable requirements of the underlying zoning district.

The ORC completed the review of Article XIII, General Design and Performance Standards. Topics for next time, Tues., Sept. 10: the Accessory Use Dwellings section, along with Articles XVIII-XXII. The meeting adjourned at 9:55 PM.

5. Historic Resources Map/Survey

Updating the Historic Resources Map, which "identifies the Historic Resources of East Nantmeal Township" (from Article XVI of ENT Ordinance), has become a priority since suggestions were made at the August 6 ORC meeting that the Historical Commission should seek to verify and authenticate our Historical Resources list and map. Diana Cormack remembered Jane Davison telling all involved updating the HR list (in 2006), that a Historical Resource Expert was needed to authenticate our list, and a grant was applied for from the state. The Commission will attempt again to get a grant, this time through the County's Vision Partnership Program. Karen Marshall and Jeannine Speirs, upon invitation, have agreed to come to our next meeting, September 17, 2019, to help us with the grant application. Supervisor Tyler Wren has also been invited to attend, since he offered to be the contact for the Board of Supervisors, a necessary part of this process.

So far Maureen contacted Bob Wise, Principal Senior Architectural Historian, RGA, Inc., and consultant who prepared the approved 2014 National Registration form for the Nantmeal Village Historic District, about working on this project.

We discussed the HC's having an historic buildings expert as a consultant, as per a suggestion.

6. Correspondence

Maureen corresponded by email with Karen Marshall and Jeannine Spears to arrange their attendance at the September 17 meeting.

Karen Marshall emailed the Vision Partnership Grant Manual; Maureen forwarded this info to Supervisor Wren and others in preparation for the Sept. 17 meeting.

July's 2019 CCHPN Heritage Events Calendar and PA State Historical Commission's newsletter sent by Karen Marshall were forwarded to HC members and others.

Bob Wise emailed back about his being available to work with ENT toward an updated Historic Resources Survey/Map in the future.

7. ENT Historic House Plaques

Alison recounted that her order for four plaques is on its way. Again, the idea of the Historical Commission giving a preservation award ("respecting our Historic Treasures") to the owner of a Historical Resource, similar to the EAC's Conservation Award was discussed.

8. Historical Commission Page on Township Website

We are still getting a list of changes and improvements for the HC page together. Maureen will ask Mark Dzuban to help with this endeavor.

9. 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 1979 survey from our archives, a copy of *Finding History in East Nantmeal*, and the CCHPN Directory of Trades and Services for Historic Architecture. New owners include HR properties on the following roads: Fairview Rd. in Nantmeal Village, Potts School Rd., Templin Rd., and Warwick Furnace Rd.

10. History Society

The need for a description of the History Society for the website was mentioned. Alison will provide one to include on the website. Alison confirmed that annual dues for HS membership is ten dollars. We need a price for *History of East Nantmeal Township* to be reprinted, with an addendum with updates to the original edition.

11. C. Loomis Donation

On July 22 Marty Raser and HC members Diana, Kristine, Ann, and Maureen made an inventory notebook of Chuck Loomis' donation of archival material; a meeting with the donor will be scheduled, as requested by Mr. Loomis. Diana suggested that we confer with Kathy Duncan of West Nantmeal, who has been meeting with older residents to record their remembrances of West Nantmeal.

12. Additional Items

Frequent HC attendee JoAnn Domanski let us know that she purchased sections 13 and 14 of a typewritten transcription notebook from the original book of minutes from the old Quaker meeting house in Nantmeal Village. JoAnn shared that this notebook dates from 1938 as a WPA project, and that most of the original, handwritten minutes are probably in the Swarthmore College Library collection. She continues to seek notebooks 1-10. She showed us a copy she made of this notebook and handed this copy to Marty, who put this donation in the HC file. Thank you, JoAnn!

The idea of presenting an annual HC/HS preservation award was mentioned and needs further consideration.

An ENT resident requested help in finding possible ways to ensure protection of the historic qualities of an Historic Resource buildings on a property in perpetuity.

The Thomas P. Bentley Nature Preserve, Warwick Furnace Rd. and Valley Way, Glenmoore, will have its official opening Saturday, Sept. 14 from noon to 3:00 PM.

The 79th Annual Chester County Day House Tour 2019, which this year features homes and public landmarks in the county's southeast quadrant, will be Saturday, Oct. 5, 10 AM to 5 PM. See chestercountyhospital.org for details and tickets.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, September 17, 2019 at 7:00 PM

Kristine Gordon-Watson, Secretary
Maureen Noonan, Chairperson