

Historical Commission Minutes September 17, 2019

The Tuesday, September 17, 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, Tory Lingg, JoAnn Domanski, Marty Raser and Tyler Wren

1. Minutes

The August 20, 2019 minutes were approved, with corrections to #12 noting that the residing place of the minutes, from the old Quaker Meeting House in Nantmeal Village, is Swarthmore College Library.

2. 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 (VPP). Karen Marshall and Jeannine Speirs, upon invitation, had agreed to come to this meeting, September 17, 2019, to help us with the grant application. At the very last minute they had to cancel, due to illness. The Board of Supervisors' participation is a necessary part of this process. The BoS would need to add the Township's commitment amount into the 2020 township budget at the first meeting in this process for next year's spending.

3. HC Committee Report, BoS Meeting September 11, 2019

Maureen gave the following HC report: The Historical Commission had a meeting August 20, 2019; the minutes will be posted when approved.

Items from BoS meeting

Solicitor Oeste said that he wrote to Michael Montgomery September 10 regarding his Conestoga Rd./Rt. 401 property and the township's Notice of Demolition, issued August 29, 2018. Montgomery has 10 days to respond. Maureen asked the building inspector specifics of the addition permit requested for Historic Resource #147, 3456 Conestoga Rd. He said a second story addition to the current 1950 portion (east house side) is planned.

The Ordinance Review Committee will reconvene Monday, October 1, 2019, 7:00 PM.

4. 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. At the September 11, 2019 BOS meeting, Solicitor Oeste was that he had been sent another letter.

Ann Bedrick suggested nominating the Hause Store to the new "at risk" Preservation Pennsylvania program. She will study the forms and nominate by the Oct. 14 deadline. As described by Preservation PA: "Pennsylvania At Risk listing is a tool to help save special places across the commonwealth. New this year is the option to have your nomination reviewed by the State Historic Preservation Office for a determination of eligibility for the National Register."

Joan Gross contacted Maureen with questions for PennDOT about when and by whom Browsers Bridge, Mansion Road, would be repaired. Maureen was directed via Monica Harrower to Project Manager Kristin Cappara who said that Browsers Bridge was now part of the five bridge Group O. J.D. Eckman was awarded the contract Sept. 16 for minimum maintenance repairs to the two small historic bridges in the group. Work could start within months; the contractor can decide which historic bridge of the two to do first. Joan Gross again contacted Maureen Sept. 17 with good news that PennDOT had repaired Browsers Bridge's road surface.

An ENT resident requested help in finding possible ways to ensure protection of the historic qualities of Historic Resource buildings on a property in perpetuity. A History Society member will contact the property owner. The History Society was instrumental in procuring the façade easement for Pat Kaiser's schoolhouse in Nantmeal Village a couple years ago. Those at the meeting were asked to let the HC know about any such preservation requests.

5. Ordinance Review Committee (ORC) Meeting, September 10, 2019

HC members Kristine and Maureen were the only others in attendance, besides ORC members Ed Bacon, Dave Maugle, Tyler Wren and Wayne Grafton, Land Planner. The ORC reviewed the Accessory Use Dwellings section and ended the session with brief check into the status of communication about the Timber Harvesting Requirements section, with review of this section now planned for the October ORC. The meeting adjourned at 9 PM.

6. Correspondence

Maureen corresponded by email with Karen Marshall and Jeannine Spears to arrange their attendance at the September 17 meeting; Karen and Jeannine emailed Sept. 17, 2019, to express regrets upon being unable to attend.

Karen Marshall emailed the 2019 Vision Partnership Grant Manual; Maureen forwarded this info to others in preparation for the Sept. 17 meeting.

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

Maureen emailed Kathy Brumfield the HC report correction for the Sept. 11, 2019 BoS minutes.

7. ENT Historic House Plaques

Alison Mallamo delivered her recent order for four plaques. The fall *Sweetwater Reporter* issue is due to be out by end of October; Alison will place an advertisement for plaques.

8. Historical Commission Page on Township Website

We are still getting a list of changes and improvements for the HC page together.

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., Warwick Furnace Rd. and Prizer Road.

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

Maureen will be scheduling a follow-up meeting (not on a Monday or Tuesday!) with the donor of an inventory notebook, Chuck Loomis.

12. Additional Items

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

Diana attended The Thomas P. Bentley Nature Preserve’s, Warwick Furnace Rd. and Valley Way, Glenmoore, official opening Saturday, Sept. 14 from noon to 3:00 PM. The preserve has the second largest white oak in Pennsylvania.

Philadelphia’s Young Friends of the Preservation Alliance scheduled a meeting in the Preserve Sept. 21. (Note: this event was later cancelled.)

On behalf of the Township, Diana will attend the Fall Festival at Warwick Park, September 21, 10 AM – 2 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 ticket info.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 PM.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 15, 2019, 7:00 PM.

*****(Later the meeting date had to be changed to Wed., Oct. 16.)**

Kristine Gordon-Watson, Secretary

Maureen Noonan, Chairperson