

Historical Commission Minutes July 20, 2021

This meeting was called to order at 7:11 PM.

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

1. Minutes

The June 15, 2021 minutes were approved with minor corrections.

2. HC report and info from Board of Supervisors Meeting July 14, 2021

HC Report: The Historical Commission reported that the Commission met June 15, 2021, the first time "live" in the Township Building since the PA Covid emergency was declared mid-March 2020. The minutes, when approved, will be posted. Work on the Historic Resources Survey Project is progressing.

BoS items: A plaque outlining Patricia St. George's contributions to conservation in East Nantmeal township was approved by the BOS. In 2002 Trish and her late husband, Joseph, were among the founding members of the East Nantmeal Land Trust. Ed Loomis reported that the contracts to pave Valley Way and parts of Hedge Road should begin the last two weeks in July. There was discussion around scheduling a community fall picnic at Welkinweir. Diana of the Planning Commission reported that on August 12 the Commission will review the ORC's new Comprehensive plan and hopefully, now that the Natural Lands Trust has finished their review, the development plan for the approx. 20 acres property on Horseshoe Trail Road, which is located in the Nantmeal Village Historic National Register District. The developer was granted an extension until October at the May 13 Planning Commission meeting. Maureen and Kristine thanked the road crew for bringing the 21 boxes of History Society books from Patricia St. George's house to the township building.

The next ORC meeting is August 10, 2021, at the Township Building.

3. Ordinance Review Committee (ORC) Meeting, July 6, 2021

This meeting was cancelled.

4. ENT Historic Resources Survey Project Update

Members are in throes of reviewing for accuracy the approximately 300 Survey Forms that RGA consultants have presented to the Commission in the online Dropbox format. Maureen and Ann have supplied missing photos. The next

pre-scheduled meeting with RGA, Inc. will be pushed into late summer or early fall for RGA's final presentation. (The County has given ENT's project an extension.)

RGA has sent the second invoice January through February 28. Maureen and ENT Secretary Susan Rutherford have examined the product content in the bill, sent a revised product content to RGA to re-invoice, and copied it to Jeannine Speirs at the County for review.

Dan Shakar-Krasnov, Heritage Coordinator for the County, has confirmed that the County will do the mapping for this project.

5. Info about Historic Resources

The development plan for the approx. 20 acres property on Horseshoe Trail Road, which is located in the Nantmeal Village Historic National Register District, needs further work and was granted an extension until October at the May 13 Planning Commission meeting. Diana reported that the Natural Lands Trust has finished their review.

The Oz Group, the new owner of The Hause Store (HR#029) and the Hause House (HR#030) met with the Planning Commission May 13. Their 7 acre lot is right on the limits of net acreage for a three lot subdivision, and another survey is needed to determine this possibility.

HR#042, 102 James Mill Rd ., is on the market, as is HR#070, 3855 Coventryville Road.

The HC will try to access photos of a known painting of HR#070, called Crown Ridge Farm, in hopes of obtaining some original structural information.

No new information about the status of easements/conservation concerning two large historic resources properties has been confirmed yet.

6. Correspondence

- 1) Many emails between Maureen, the Township, RGA, and Chester County's Jeannine Speirs about the VPP Grant invoices
- 2) Emails to and from Maureen and Eric Quinn, Transportation Planner CCPlanning Commission about County Bridges 246 and 199.
- 3) Email from the Chester County History Center about Zoom offerings
- 4) Email from 2021 CCHPN Virtual Heritage Series Town Tours and Village Walks which started June 17, 2021, with possible actual walking tours later in the summer.
- 5) Paul on Timber Drive asked Diana Cormac about the buying location of East Nantmeal Township History books. She said the township building.

7. HC's Page on Township Website

Ed Bacon posts our minutes on the HC page upon approval. We will get updates to Ed soon. We would like the pictures from the April 22 cleanup of Nantmeal Friends Cemetery, as well as Browsers Bridge's Final Inspection, posted.

8. History Society

More interest on Gary's proposal of a donation by the History Society of commemorative plaques for HRMap#029 and HRMap#030, the Hause Store and House, if indeed the buyers do work to maintain these structures before their re-marketing. There is also plaque interest for our school houses. The road crew picked up the 21 boxes of historical books at Trish St Georges' and brought them to the township building. A superficial count was:

200 Reading Furnace

343 The Forgers

440 History of East Nantmeal Township

9. Additional Items

Reminder: Info about this summer's CCHPN Town Tours and Village Walks, commencing June 17, is posted on CCHPN website. Touring the history of The Welsh Baptist Historic District and the Mason Dixon Line, August 19 and 22 is a walking tour.

Lovely Lavender Season Peaks at nearby Historic Warwick Furnace Farm:

Check <https://www.warwickfurnacefarm.com>

(Reservations are needed to visit this beautiful lavender farm in Chester County with its shop of handmade lavender essential oil and botanical beauty products, pick-your-own lavender opportunities, along with other activities.)

Another Township Treasure: French and Pickering Creeks Conservation Trust has opened a three-mile walking trail on the Great Marsh Uplands

Preserve. The starting point and parking for this trail are located at 365 Templin Road, Elverson, PA 19520.



The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 PM.

The next HC meeting will be Tuesday, August 17, 2021, at 7:00 PM.

Kristine Gordon-Watson, Secretary

Maureen Noonan, Chairperson