

Historical Commission Minutes September 21, 2021

This meeting was called to order at 7:04 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 July 20, 2021 minutes were approved with minor corrections.

2. HC report and info from Board of Supervisors Meeting August 11, 2021

HC Report: The Historical Commission reported that the Commission met on July 20, 2021. The minutes, when approved, will be posted.

Maureen reported an accident happened two weeks ago on the Iron Bridge. Work on the Historic Resources Survey Project is progressing.

September 8, 2021 HC Report: The Historical Commission did not meet in August. Work on the Historic Resources Survey Project is progressing.

Ann Bedrick, EN Historical Commission member, will host CHESTER COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION NETWORK'S VIRTUAL HERITAGE FALL SERIES--"WOMEN AT WARWICK FURNACE: IRON TO LAVENDER" THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2021 AT 5 PM.

BoS items: A deferred right of way request for HR#070 was struck from the agenda. The Natural Lands Trust has finished their review of the development plan for the approx. 20 acres property on Horseshoe Trail Road, which is located in the Nantmeal Village Historic National Register District, which the developer presented to the BOS. There are many issues associated with this plan, storm water, number of horses, disturbance of wetlands, apartment in the barn, width of driveway etc. and the zoning hearing board meeting to address them has been postponed to the end of October. Diana Cormack of the Planning Commission reported that, at the August 12 meeting, the Commission reviewed the ORC's updated draft of the Zoning Ordinance. HC Chair Maureen urged members to bring up how to include the news of updated HR Survey and Map in Article XVI, Historic Resources Protection Standards of the Zoning Ordinance and Comprehensive Plan.

Tom Oeste, Solicitor, said that the Historic Resources Survey Contract states that RGA is under contract to update the East Nantmeal Survey from 2009. The number of Historic Resources listed in the contract is 230, even though

RGA, The County and East Nantmeal knew the real number of resources from the 2009 survey is 297. Since this erroneous number is on the contract, and there are at least 300 HRs in the Township, East Nantmeal will need to enter into a separate contract with RGA in order to have the survey completed and pay RGA for additional work due to this difference..

The next ORC meeting is October 5, 2021, at the Township Building.

3. Ordinance Review Committee (ORC) August 10, 2021

Chapters 6, census and 8, housing in the Comprehensive Plan were discussed. (Kristine attended.)

Ordinance Review Committee (ORC) September 7, 2021

Future land use was a topic. Referencing the Historic Resource Survey and Map in Article XVI of Zoning Ordinance was discussed. The identification of heritage trees in the HR Survey and other possible places was mentioned. When asked, two ORC members said that HR# should be part of a property's description, with the question of how to get this included with other planning info. (Kristine and Maureen attended.)

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 six batches via the online Dropbox format. Maureen and Ann have supplied missing photos. The County had given ENT's project an extension until February 2022. Bob Wise, RGA Consultants, sent news that they have processed more survey forms than the contracted number, necessitating a budget adjustment. We have received confirmation that the County will do the mapping gratis for this project, so remainder Mapping funds can be applied to another category in the survey work contract.

A meeting is scheduled September 22 with Bob Wise, Susan Rutherford, and the HR Survey Task Force, Tyler Wren, Diana Cormack, Maureen Noonan, to discuss and resolve the budget irregularity.

Bob Wise emailed recently to question when we will be ready for RGA to "finalize" the survey forms before the next step, mapping; we will try to determine an approximate date as the review and corrections continue.

5. Info about Historic Resources

On July 22, Maureen and Kristine met with Daniel P. Shachar-Krasnoff, who is Karen Marshall's successor as CC Historic Preservation Coordinator (HPC). They met Dan at the Iron Bridge, Dan's only planned stop in the area,

and proceeded to introduce him to East Nantmeal via the Valley Way Bridge, Browers Bridge and several historic properties.

At Susan R.'s request, at the end of July Maureen dropped off a 2009 HR Survey copy, provided by Kristine, to help with identifying HRs.

HR#028, 4146 Conestoga Road, has been sold.

HR#070, 3855 Conestoga Road, is listed for sale. 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.

HR#042, 102 James Mill Road, has been sold. We believe it has been bought by a neighbor who has good intentions of historic restoration.

The Natural Lands Trust has finished their review of the development plan for the approx. 20 acres property on Horseshoe Trail Road, which is located in the Nantmeal Village Historic National Register District, which the developer presented to the BOS. There are many issues associated with this plan, storm water, number of horses, disturbance of wetlands, apartment in the barn, width of driveway etc. and the zoning hearing board meeting to address them has been postponed to the end of October. (Gary and Diana attended the Sept. Planning Commission meeting.)

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.

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

3) Email from the Chester County History Center about Zoom offerings

4) Email from 2021 CCHPN Virtual Heritage Series

4) Today ENT Secretary Susan R. asked if there had been follow-up given to a volunteer from the Mill at Anselma about a James Benson being in Nantmeal around the turn of the 18th century. Ann B said she was still checking into this question, but so far her Archives research has not found a Benson in the Township before 1865. Hopefully Ann will let Susan and the volunteer know soon.

5.) Email from Betsy Morgan about additional PA Turnpike archeology

- 6) Email from Diana about Carol Petrow's request for HC's help in naming unnamed streams
- 7)Maureen left message for Cory Kegerise, Eastern PA Community Preservation Coordinator(PHMC) to discuss local archeology, recording indigenous people evidence
- 8)ENT resident and Twin Valleys Garden Club member Evie Baird sent photos of the April clean-up day at the Nantmeal Friends Cemetery for the ENT website. Thanks!
- 9)Email to Dan Shachar-Krasnoff, HPC, about any update on the Iron Bridge report in progress

7. HC's Page on Township Website

We would like the pictures from the April 22 cleanup of Nantmeal Friends Cemetery (available via Twin Valleys Garden Club member, ENT's Evie Baird), as well as Browsers Bridge's Final Inspection, posted. Approved minutes were sent to Ed B. to be posted.

8. History Society

A brief mention was made about the future of the books we now have, as per Kristine's count.

9. Additional Items

Carolyn Thompson left for the Commission's files an article from the November 23, 1986 *Sunday Daily Local News* entitled "Beaver Run Town had Wild Time Once."

Reminder: Info about and registration for CCHPN events is posted on CCHPN website, cchpn.org, under "Events."

The members voted to change the day of the next meeting to Thursday, October 21.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 PM.

The next HC meeting will be Thursday, October 21, 2021, at 7:00 PM.

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