

EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
May 8, 2008

The East Goshen Township Historical Commission held their regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, May 8th, 2008 at 7:02 PM at the East Goshen Township Building. In attendance were: Chairman Kathryn Yahraes, Vice Chairman Connie Bain, and members Sue Ciorletti (arrived at 7:50), Linda Gordon, Dolores Higgins, and Ben Rohrbeck. Member Ellen Carmody was an excused absence. Also in attendance were Ed Lendrat (Historical Commission Research Volunteer) and Joe McDonough (Board of Supervisors).

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Chairman led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. MINUTES

Minutes from the April 10, 2008 Meeting were tabled until the June 12 meeting.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Activity Calendar

- The start time for the CCHPN Annual Volunteer Recognition on June 25 has been changed to 5:00. Kathryn will email information to all as it becomes available. Information will also appear in THE LEDGER which should arrive near the end of the month.
- Ed announced that the Friends of Auto Cars will be bringing their trucks to the East Goshen Fire Company on September 27 for a display.

B. Other Announcements

- The Historical Commission's name has been added to the Keep East Goshen Beautiful Plaque for 100% attendance. Both the Planning Commission and the Park & Recreation Board also had 100% attendance. The Group recognized was the S.E PA Deer Hunters Association has also been added for their efforts in cleaning up the Clocktower Open Space and the Mill Creek Open Space. The plaque hangs in the second floor lobby.

5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- A. Ben is being honored as volunteer of the year at Brandywine Battlefield. The PHMC Associates Forum will take place May 10 at Pennsbury Manor. Kathryn and Linda will also attend in support of Ben's honor.
- B. The Town Tours and Village Walks brochures will be distributed when available. Information will be posted on the Township web site by Monday 5/12/08.

6. SUB-DIVISION / LAND DEVELOPMENT

- A. Willis Tract Subdivision (East Boot Road – Agreement is still not signed).

- 1 B. Hansen Property (Sorrell Hill) – Gary showed the latest revision in the plans that
2 showed the newly drawn lot lines allowing pools to be included if desired by the
3 homeowners.
4 C. Matlack Florist – Planning Commission recommended approval to the Board of
5 Supervisors. It is on the agenda for May 13.
6

7. LIAISON REPORTS

- 8 A. Park & Recreation – Ben and Sue had emailed their report. Kathryn asked if there
9 was any more discussion on the dedication of the pavilion. Other than the agreement
10 to call it the Veterans’ Pavilion, no other information has been discussed. Given the
11 name, it was suggested that the actual dedication be held close to Veterans’ Day.
12 Since the Historical Commission would like to include various re-enactors, the Sons
13 of the American Revolution and current veterans, sufficient lead time is needed to
14 pull this together. Kathryn will send Ann Marie an e-mail.
15 B. Planning Commission – Connie reported that hearings for the Matlack application
16 and the Cingular PECO sub-station have been set up. T-Mobile applied for 3 boxes
17 on poles along 352 near one of the Bowtree entrances. Clock Tower Farm Bed &
18 Breakfast variance application was made by Leslie Lynch. The variances covered
19 the road it is located on, whether or not it will be owner occupied and if they could
20 serve snacks in the afternoon. The Planning Commission will write a letter
21 supporting the zoning variances with conditions.
22 C. Kathryn distributed copies of a letter to the Planning Commission regarding the
23 addition of roads where B&B’s should be allowed. The Commission will put
24 together a report that will include information of the resources on these road and
25 rationale behind including these roads. Linda commented that the intent of this
26 section of was to prevent B&B’s from being placed inside residential developments.
27 She suggested that each case should be considered on its own merits and that
28 variances should be applied for. In the case of Clock Tower Farm, the concern is
29 that the property could be sub-divided and the resource possible demolished. Ben
30 raised a concern about the Smith Property, the Perakis Property as well as Clock
31 Tower Farm.
32

8. OLD BUSINESS

- 33 A. Projects / Task Reports
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 - 35 • Images of American – Linda is working on this. Kathryn will email a copy of
36 the last list with everyone’s assignment. Linda ordered 101 photos for
37 approximately \$1000 from the Chester County Historical Society. They will be
38 put on a DVD in the exact format we need.
 - 39 • Oral History – Linda will be scheduling Mae Schmitt, Dot Hicks, & Joan Miller
40 for taping sessions.

41 B. Property Research -- Ed is using a computer program called “Metes & Bounds” to do
42 property research on the Little Lulu Author’s house, Hershey’s Mill, houses on Grand
43 Oak lane. Ed also distributed changes on several properties. Kathryn asked Ed to make
44 a copy of the pictures for the 3 Tuns Tavern to give to the owner.
45 C. Education Center Concept Discussion – Kathryn distributed copies of the Chester
46 County P & R Publication “Nature of Things. Commission members were asked to
47 review their course offerings and come prepared to discussion them at the next meeting.

1 D. Living History Day – Everything is pretty much done. A large Birthday Card for all to
2 sign along with a birthday cake will be included. Opening ceremonies will take place at
3 10:00.

4 E. Updates –

- 5 • Oral History Software Program. Dolores is doing further research but isn't sure
6 that a program to meet our needs exists.
- 7 • Bellows Purchase – We have purchased the bellows and will use it for education
8 only at this time. Norm Glass and Bob Klinger will work with Ben and will
9 come up with an estimate to hang the bellows. If grant money becomes
10 available, the bellows can then be restored to good working condition.
- 11 • Children's Colonial Garb – Liz McGuinness, Ben's daughter, will make new
12 outfits for the kids to try on. Ellen and Dolores will meet with Liz at the Living
13 History Day to further talk about additional costumes.
- 14 • Dry Stone Wall – Ben and Ellen met and determined that the demonstration wall
15 be put south of the walk that leads to 352 and should be parallel to 352. Linda
16 had concerns that during heavy rains the wall would wash out. Ben commented
17 that since it was a dry wall, water should just go through it. Kathryn suggested
18 Ben and Ellen take another look at the area to see if there are other alternatives
19 for wall placement.
- 20 • A worm fence has been constructed at the end of the Wetlands Boardwalk by
21 Ben using a Girl Scout troop. The fence will be lengthened as old rails become
22 available. It will make a good teaching tool.
- 23 • Norm Glass has completed repairs to both the Plank House and the Blacksmith
24 Shop. These repairs do not come out of the Historical Commission Budget but
25 are taken from the overall township budget.
- 26 • Newsletter articles are due May 10. The ABC's will be limited to one page per
27 issue. Kathryn suggested that aside from our "feature" article, that we do a
28 bulleted "Notes and New" and suggest that people go to the website for the
29 complete version.
- 30 • Copies of the "Someday List" were distributed. Kathryn reminded that those
31 who had not yet contributed needed to get their suggestions to her before the
32 June Meeting so the list can be updated.
- 33 • Dedication of the New Pavilion in the Park – refer to liaison reports.

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35 **9. NEW BUSINESS**

36 A. Budget Considerations – none

37 B. Historical Section on the Township Web Site – Some additions have been made.
38 Kathryn, Ben, Sue and Dolores will meet with Terry. Preliminary divisions
39 have been suggested. Kathryn would like to see the Historical Section up and
40 running by July 1.

41 C. Other New Business

- 42 • The Commission decided NOT to have a table at this year's 4th of July
43 Celebration. People were primarily interested in getting a good place to sit
44 with their families to listen to the band and see the fireworks.
- 45 • A date to volunteer at the Goshen Fair will be decided at the June meeting.
- 46 • Kathryn, Ben and Linda did a taping at Hershey's Mill Channel 20. The 15
47 minutes segment will air the first half of June and will cover the activities of

1 the Commission and the Living History Day. Thanks go to Sue for getting this
2 set up.

- 3 • The subject of insurance for the Plank House, the Blacksmith Shop and their
4 contents was discussed. Kathryn will check with Rick. Ben voiced concern
5 over the residents who meet in the Blacksmith Shop and “wander” over to the
6 Forge side. The main concern is for their safety but also for the protection of
7 the antique items and tools that are on display.
- 8 • Connie inherited old numbered beams from the Presbyterian Chapel that had
9 been torn down. They could be used as part of Educational Center.
- 10 • Jim Webb had drawn sketches of bellows and will finish them. The bellows
11 must not be taken apart to do sketches of the internal workings. Ben will send
12 Jim an email about this.
- 13 • Linda asked that each member retype the Chains of Title that Ed has prepared
14 in a different format. Kathryn and Linda will develop a template and will
15 present it at the June Meeting.

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17 **10. PUBLIC COMMENT** -- None

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19 **11. ADJOURNMENT**

20 Linda made a motion to adjourn. Ben seconded the motion. No public comment. The motion
21 carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:45 pm.

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24
25 Respectfully submitted by: _____
26 Jean Harvey, Recording Secretary