

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP**  
**HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**  
**MARCH 12, 2009**

The East Goshen Township Historical Commission held their regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, March 12, 2009 at 7:00 pm at the East Goshen Township Building. In attendance were: Chairman Kathryn Yahraes, Vice Chairman Ellen Carmody and members Dolores Higgins, Ben Rohrbeck, Sue Ciorletti, Jason Young and Joe Zug. Also in attendance were: Gary Althouse (Township Building Inspector), Ed Lendrat (Historical Commission Research Volunteer) and Ruth Scadding, (Park & Recreation). Guests: Damon Kletzian, an Historical volunteer from West Goshen Township.

**1 & 2. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. MINUTES**

The February 12, 2009 minutes were approved as corrected. Sue Ciorletti abstained since she was not at the meeting.

**4. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. 2009 Activity Calendar - "Spirits of 1777" is an activity sponsored by Paoli Battlefield and is tentatively scheduled for September 21 or 22. It was noted that the next Historical Commission meeting is April 9, not April 12 as posted on calendar.
- B. Ellen announced that Tim Seachultz would be doing musket drills at the June LHD. Susan Mahoney, Dennis Payne – volunteers for Paoli Battlefield – will help at the June LHD. Mike Kochan will help at the September event. Mike, a Civil War/Military historian has a working replica of Franklin's electric battery.
- C. National History Day Competition – Kathryn thanked all who participated as volunteers at Immaculata on March 7. We have asked Carol for the names of the regional winners and students who went to state so they can be recognized by the HC at the Fugett Middle School Awards Assembly in June.

**5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Saturday CCHPN Workshop (March 14) is on fund raising. Because of the severe state budget cutbacks, less grant money is available this year. Possibly none will be available by next year. Kathryn asked board members to send letters to state and federal legislators asking for funding to keep historic sites open and make grant money available to PHMC. Dolores suggested posting a notice to visitors at EGT sites requesting that they also send letters of support for funding to the state and federal legislators. PHMC historic sites are being particularly hard hit because lack of funding. Some may be forced to close. Since East Goshen Township's sites are volunteer operated, it will affect us regarding the amount of grant money available. Kathryn asked each HC member to recruit one or more volunteers for our sites. Orientation is slated for Sunday, April 19 at 1:00 pm.

**6. SUB-DIVISION/LAND DEVELOPMENT**

Gary Althouse showed the sketch of plan for the National Bank of Malvern at Paoli Pike and Airport Road. There are some issues to be resolved and concerns about ingress and egress on Airport Road. Malvern Retreat's application has been extended to June 30, 2009. A house at 321 Dutton Mill Road may be getting an addition. If so, the residents will be asked to keep in mind the historical architectural aspects when they are remodeling or adding to their homes in that area. They will also be invited to

1 present their plans at an upcoming HC meeting is they do decide to add on to their structure. The house  
2 is on the Historical Inventory List for the Township.  
3

## 4 **7. LIAISON REPORTS**

5 BOS --Kathryn will send the remaining reports from the BOS meetings. The BOS minutes are already  
6 posted on the Township Web Site. Major issues recently discussed include the sewer treatment plant  
7 expansion and polling places now located in the Township building. A variety of resolutions were  
8 passed, and all are available to view on the website. Recycling is up because of the single stream  
9 recycling program.  
10

11 Parks and Recreation – Ben’s liaison report was emailed to all. Ruth said P & R would appreciate any  
12 volunteer help for the Easter Egg Hunt scheduled for April 4 between 10 am and 12 pm. The Board  
13 could also use some extra help filling bags at their meeting on April 2 at 7:00 pm.  
14

15 Planning Commission - Jason reported that PALCS applicant raised some issues concerning the  
16 amount of traffic, students driving to school and parking. The applicant was asked to gather additional  
17 information on left-turning issues into and out of the school. That aspect will be discussed further. An  
18 ordinance amendment for late fees was raised by ¾ of a percent. There was discussion on LED signs  
19 with concerns about prohibition of signage. Gary brought up 321 Dutton Mill Road. The HC will  
20 suggest keeping the architectural features of the house, and encouraged homeowners to come to the  
21 Historical Commission for help with planning expansion and remodeling by keeping the architectural  
22 features similar.  
23

24 Municipal Authority – Ellen reported a project manager has been requested for help with the expansion  
25 of the RCSTP project. The MA has been videoing lines and needs to replace potential break areas with  
26 liners. Almost 300 feet of pipe needs liners at a cost of \$19,000.  
27

28 Conservancy – Dolores reported the YMCA tree purchase and installation are out for bid. They plan to  
29 plant in the spring, and are also working on a plan to plant trees along the edge of East Boot Road  
30 behind the Plank House. CB members walk the property to determine where trees and bushes should  
31 go. Comcast asked for suggestions on colors and plantings for their building. It was also requested that  
32 the IBM property be walked for screening bushes and trees, and suggestions be given to PALCS.  
33 Recycling should try to be improved with emphasis on increased participation.  
34

35 “Keep East Goshen Beautiful” – ABCs and volunteers will be out cleaning up roads, with HC members  
36 responsible for Paoli Pike to Manley Road on Rt. 352. ING will be working on plantings for Earth Day  
37 between April 19 and 21<sup>st</sup>.  
38

39 Kathryn emphasized that if members are not getting emailed copies of their ABC liaisons, please let her  
40 know and she will tell Joyce Tarsi who is not getting the packets via email. Kathryn also distributed  
41 copies of ABC liaisons with names, email and street addresses, and phone numbers.  
42  
43

## 44 **8. OLD BUSINESS**

- 45 A. Images of America Book update – there is no exact release date so far, but it is anticipated the book  
46 will be ready in late April.  
47 B. Hershey’s Mill Dam – Dana Pizzaro will do his presentation for the Board of Supervisors workshop  
48 on March 24. He proposes taking down some trees immediately. Rick Smith suggests a walk-  
49 around with Dana and others to look at the dam area. The dam had a small breach in 1967/68 but

1 was repaired. The sediment test is negative, meaning no toxic substances were found. Long-term  
2 issues need to be addressed.

3 C. Living History Day – Ellen and Kathryn will get a checklist to everyone via email for the June 6  
4 event. Discussion was held about getting a color printer provided by the Township so that pictures  
5 can be printed and given to participants to take with them. (If something went wrong with a  
6 “loaned” printer the HC would be responsible.) Dolores will give the specs on a Kodak color  
7 printer to Kathryn for possible purchase. We may be able to use some donation money from the  
8 Plank House. Taking pictures and giving prints to people on the spot will be the best and most  
9 efficient way to distribute picture taking. A suggestion was made the possibly CVS could donate  
10 disposable cameras and then have pictures developed there; however it probably would require  
11 permission from CVS corporate to do that, time being a big factor in planning for June.

12 D. Veterans Memorial Pavilion –Dedication of a permanent marker is on hold. It had been scheduled  
13 for May 16 – Armed Forces Day. Mark Miller is gathering information on permanent markers. Sue  
14 Ciorletti will work with someone from the Park and Recreation Board to make recommendations on  
15 what kind of plaque or a granite marker would be placed there. More research on appearance and cost,  
16 and perhaps ask for donations from various groups including veterans organizations to help pay for it.  
17

18 E. Other - none  
19

20 F. Family Research – Ed Lendrat reported that the work is slow going through files. Marydell Farm –  
21 after more research it looks as if it was a springhouse. The poured concrete roof reinforced the original  
22 roof. From the original plans for Marydell there is not much information available. One clue is  
23 whether there is a wet or dry floor. It could be an icehouse from the turn of the century. The concrete  
24 on top could have been used to reinforce the structure. There were no structures listed on the 1905  
25 map, but it would not be unusual to have root cellars near a bank barn; however no maps show any  
26 barns or houses close to the structure. Kathryn sent an email to Mark Miller suggesting a temporary  
27 fence be put up around the structure to keep it from being used by kids in the neighborhood. But  
28 nothing will be removed until a decision is made about what to do with the structure.  
29

30 G. Other Old Business -none  
31

## 32 9. NEW BUSINESS

- 33 A. “Lock Stock and Barrel” seminar will be attended by Ellen Carmody. Sue made a motion to pay  
34 half the \$150 tuition and Dolores seconded the motion. Motion was passed. Ellen will be  
35 reimbursed \$75.
- 36 B. Town Talks and Village Walks – We will help out another Municipality in 2009 if requested. East  
37 Goshen Township’s next walk will be in 2010.
- 38 C. First Person Interpretation – Ben and Ellen. A walking tour of Goshenville outline was developed  
39 and presented by Ben. There are 11 characters that would talk about the founding of Goshenville  
40 and/or the Revolutionary War through the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Ben explained what the characters would  
41 say, where they lived and how. He provided a very informative handout. Kathryn thanked both  
42 Ben and Ellen for their research on this information. Kathryn suggested some additional characters  
43 such as a gravedigger to explain more about the graves in the area, and the Clymers could talk about  
44 hiding in the woods while George Clymer was in Philadelphia working on the Declaration of  
45 Independence. A script will be written to give to people playing the character roles. Guides will be  
46 used to insure the smooth flow of visitors in the groups for Town Tours with about 10 people in  
47 each group. East Goshen Township will participate in Chester County Day in 2010. We will need  
48 clothing and objects to be used by players, as well as time to get the word out to other sites and  
49 enlist volunteer help. Jason offered to look at the script and work on it with Ben and Ellen.  
50

1 In order to get visitors to return to the Plank House and Blacksmith Shop, it was suggested that once  
2 a month we provide finger foods such as bread, sausage, pickles, pound cake and perhaps, cider or  
3 other tavern faire at the Plank House. This would be inexpensive and additional incentive for return  
4 visits.  
5

6 D. Other New Business – Goals and objectives were discussed with each Commission Member taking  
7 the “lead” on the responsibility for one or more goals. Several goals will require all members  
8 participate to achieve these goals.  
9

10 E. A lock has been placed on the door between the historic part of the house and the meeting room.  
11 All members will get the combination to the lock.  
12

13 **10 and 11.** There was no correspondence or additional public comment.  
14

15 **12. Adjournment**

16 A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 pm.  
17

18 Respectfully submitted,  
19

20  
21  
22 Barbara Woodin  
23 Recording Secretary  
24  
25  
26