

EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

August 13, 2009

FINAL

The East Goshen Township Historical Commission held its regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, August 13, 2009 at 7:00pm at the East Goshen Township Building. In attendance were: Chairman Kathryn Yahraes, Vice Chairman Ellen Carmody, and members Ben Rohrbeck, Sue Ciorletti, Dolores Higgins, Ben Rohrbeck and Jason Young. Joe Zug was excused due to illness. Also in attendance were: Ed Lendrat (Historical Commission Research Volunteer), Gary Althouse (Township Building Inspector), Ruth Scadding (Park & Recreation Liaison) and Joe McDonough (Board of Supervisors Liaison).

1 & 2. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:10pm and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. MINUTES

Ben moved and Sue seconded a motion to approve the July 9, 2009 as corrected. No further discussion or comments were made. The vote was unanimous to accept the minutes as corrected.

4. ACTIVITY CALENDAR and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ed Lendrat corrected the Chadds Ford Days date to September 12 & 13. Kathryn will send out an updated calendar with any changes. Ellen reviewed activities for the Paoli Battlefield "Spirits of 1777" fundraiser which will be held September 21 at the General Warren Inn. She also brought in handouts for Chadds Ford Days and the Fringe Festival presentation in the Powel House. Ellen also brought up the early planning stage activity for the Philadelphia Campaign Consortium. More information will be available at a later date. This is being done in cooperation with the new Revolutionary War Center and the CCHPN among others.

5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Kathryn thanked all the members for staffing the booth at the Goshen Fair. She then talked a little about the Battle of Brooklyn tour offered by the NY Historical Society. (Information had been emailed to all.) The Commission will look into it for next year. Both Ellen and Joe said it would make a good trip. Kathryn also announced that Nancy Daversa will teach two Theorem Painting courses and will do it "gratis". Identical classes will be offered October 17 & 18 from 1-4 pm at the Blacksmith Shop. Cost is \$25. A 20-minute video segment about efforts to save the dam was taped by Channel 20 (the Hershey's Mill TV station) on July 22. It will be aired in September.

6. SUBDIVISION / LAND DEVELOPMENT

Gary Althouse had some preliminary parameters for determining exactly where historic Goshenville begins and ends, and to make sure the signs are correctly located. Kathryn gave Gary the latitude and longitude coordinates from the National Register application and Gary will get more specific locations for the map.

7. LIAISON REPORTS

Deer Committee – Kathryn reported that the met Monday night and dealt with where the deer stands will be put worked with groups on locations for hunting and covered other activities for the upcoming season.

Board of Supervisors -- Joe McDonough reported police contract negotiations are moving along. There is a tentative agreement. Written copy was given to the police. If it comes back signed, then supervisors can go public with it.

Joe announced that West Goshen Township is considering the construction of a 128 unit called Traditions. It will be an Independent Living housing facility and would be built next to the Fire Station at the intersection of Greenhill Road and Boot Road. East Goshen has storm water management concerns as well as traffic concerns. The EGT residents on Culbertson Lane will be affected and will be represented at the West Goshen meetings as will the Fire Company. The Township will also ask to be a “party” to the proceedings. Access to the building will be through the both the front and back of the Fire Station.

Kathryn said that a budget meeting was held July 28. A vote whether or not to accept the stimulus money for the Hershey’s Mill Dam breaching will take place August 18. Additional BOS liaison reports will be emailed to all.

Municipal Authority -- Ellen had emailed her liaison report and there were no questions. Kathryn added that the plant addition is progressing but that the problem with the walls of the SBR tanks and still showing small leaks. Remediation is being done.

Planning Commission – Jason emailed his liaison report. There were no other questions.

Park & Recreation – Sue had emailed here report. Ruth announced that the Pumpkin Festival would be held October 17 from 10 – 1 with a rain date of October 18.

Conservancy Board – Kathryn read an email from liaison Mark Kawecki since he was unable to attend the meeting. The August meeting had a light agenda with the main topic of discussion being weed control and the merits of a “land management” plan and budget. They will discuss the Living History Day at their September meeting. Dolores will get some specific information to Mark as far as what is needed from them.

8. OLD BUSINESS

Images of America Book -- To date, we have sold 143 books. Although we sold only 13 books at the Goshen Fair, the opportunity gave the book good exposure. People were not expecting to pay the price of the book and were told that the book was available at the Plank House and the EGT Building and they could purchase the book there. Kathryn pointed out that you can not measure the benefit of the amount of exposure unless you ask specifically *where* people first saw the book when they purchase it from the Historical Commission. Break even point on the books is 209 books sold before the Commission gets any of the profit. Sue asked if there was a deadline for paying back the Supervisors on the book. Although there is no deadline, the Commission needs to sell 66 more books (\$1507) in order to get to the point of putting money back into the hands of the Commission for use on educational activities. Ben asked if we have received any royalty money yet. Kathryn explained that does not get issued until the end of the year. Commission is received on every book that is sold and not just the ones the Township sells. Ben asked if we have received any royalty money yet.

Goshen Fair Table – Having a display and handouts for Living History Day was a good idea for the Fair. It gave the Commission great exposure for its overall activities. More than 400 people were estimated to have stopped by the table. Dolores did not think that the cost of the table and the location we were given was a good spot -- especially for selling the book. The cost of the table was \$170. The Commission paid half and the Save the Dam group paid the other half since they shared the table with us.

A suggestion will be made to the BOS to discuss if the *entire* Township could benefit from the table and can justify the time and expense of a table at the fair next year

Hershey's Mill Dam -- Several residents met with the Supervisors Friday July 31. Township policy when Supervisors meet with DEP, developers or residents goes by the Rule of 2: Have two Supervisors involved in the meetings to keep all above board and to insure that the same thing was heard by all. Kathryn attended the meeting at the request of the residents. It was a good meeting and the residents were brought up to speed. Joe McDonough said that the supervisors are not the bad guys in this. Money is the real issue.

A Site Visit was made August 6 with DEP, Township, State Senator Andy Dinniman, and engineers. Two new plans were spawned. The Township is continuing to try to get an extension on the time for deciding on the stimulus money and the due date for engineering plans to the State. An extension of time allows interested parties time to raise money Joe McDonough said. Andy Dinniman, his staff, the BOS and many residents have been pitching in on this.

Kathryn reported that Jane Dorchester has submitted a proposal for the submission of an application to get Hershey's Mill Village on the National Historic Register. We are still waiting for the proposal from Bob Wise.

Living History Day – An update of activities was discussed. The budget of \$500 covers both the June and the September Living History Days. Both the updated poster and an information sheet will be posted on the Township Web Site. Members were asked to tie up any loose ends before the September meeting. Replacements for the Falcones (Quill Pen Writing and the Betsy Ross Stars) are still needed. Ruth Scadding will help on the Betsy Ross Stars in the morning but will reconfirm her availability. Posters for distribution throughout the community will be printed by the Township. Dolores will distribute them for placement throughout the community. Kathryn will be contacting the area schools with flyers and posters and will also send around an email to 250+ people. A “Volunteer Thank You” will be held immediately after the LHD at the site. Pizza, chips, desert and soda would be ordered. Rationale was that while people were excited about the day, that would be a good time to kick back, relax and talk informally about what took place and plans for next year. Ben had donated his old laptop for HC use. It can play PowerPoints and DVDs.

Discussion about future times for LHD took place. Sundays may be better than Saturday. The time could possible change to Noon – 5:00 to accommodate more people. Dolores thought we get better attendance in September because we aren't fighting with the end of the school year and graduations. Because of the Philadelphia Campaign activities slated for 2010, the possibility of not doing a LHD in September was brought up. The question of one or two LHD activities was also discussed. Ellen commented that people have come to expect two LHD and once an event gets established it is a good idea to keep it as is. These suggestions will merit further discussion. No decision was made at this time.

Policy Recommendations – Group Use of Blacksmith Shop Meeting Room – Discussion was tabled until the September meeting.

Family Research for Historical Resources – Ed Lendrat is working on 940 King Road, the Malvern Institute, 41 Sherman, 1225 North Chester Road, 2 Rossmore and 2 Line Road.

Other Old Business – Kathryn will email everyone about the reciprocal visit to the Colonial Plantation.

Mike Traines, a local artist that uses the Historical Resource Building at 352 and Strasburg Road, will be asked to present his ideas for fundraising at the September meeting.

Bob Bendesky (6th Pennsylvania Regiment) will be asked to come to the October meeting to talk about joint projects.

Brandon DiCamillo – a DLN employee -- has done two one-minute videos that have been posted on the DLN Website and also on the Township Web Site. One is about the Blacksmith Shop and the other is on the Plank House. They were posted July 29 and August 11 respectively.

9. NEW BUSINESS

Budget – After some discussion, a full budget sheet and report of expenses to date and projections for 2010 will be distributed at the September meeting. Commission members will be kept better informed.

CCHPN – The Fall program will take place October 2 (Friday evening) at 7:30 and will be held at Malvern Boro Hall. Topic will be Battlefield Archaeology. Dan Sivilich and David Orr will be the speakers. A tour of the Battlefield will take place prior to the program from 6-7 pm. **SAVE THE DATES:** March 13, 2010 for the Annual Spring Workshop and June 23, 2010 for the Annual Volunteer Recognition.

Township Newsletter – Information was submitted yesterday. Next due date for copy is November 11.

Museum Room in the Plank House -- Dolores said the Museum Room on the second floor in the Plank House should be redesigned. Kathryn suggested a static display. Dolores suggested a rotating clothing display. Dolores will work on this with help from Commission members and Plank House volunteers.

10. CORRESPONDENCE – None.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

12. ADJOURNMENT – A motion made by Ellen and seconded by Ben to adjourn at 9:25pm was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Carmody
Vice Chairman