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**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 9, 2010**

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The East Goshen Township Historical Commission held its regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, September 9, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at the East Goshen Township Building. In attendance were: Chairman Kathryn Yahraes, Co-Vice Chairmen Ben Rohrbeck and Ellen Carmody, and members Chris Reardon, Sue Ciorletti, Judy Schafer, and Ed Lendrat. Escused Absences were Joe Zug and Monica Close. Also in attendance were: Gary Althouse (Township Building Inspector), Dolores Higgins, Art Polishuk TAG member, and Ruth Scadding (Park & Recreation Board).

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Judy led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Kathryn led those present in a moment of silence for our troops.

Kathryn asked if anyone was recording the meeting. There was no one who would be recording the meeting.

3. MINUTES

Chris moved to approve the minutes from August 12, 2010 as corrected. Judy seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Kathryn welcomed Judy Schafer as a voting member of the Historical Commission.

B. Activity Calendar –The calendar was reviewed and the following changes were made:

1. The date for the Township Shredding Day has been changed to Saturday, October 23, 2010 at the Bible Baptist Church from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

2. Saturday November 27, 2010 is Patron's Day at the Brandywine Battle Field.

C. Kathryn asked if anyone had any non agenda items to discuss. There were none.

5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

A. Kathryn passed around pamphlets about events in the area: i.e. Chester County Day, Ghost seminar and dinner, Valley Forge Music for America, Radley Run Country Club Town Tour & Village Walk, etc.

B. Kathryn reminded everyone about the Illumination at Paoli Battlefield this Saturday, September 18, 2010. Volunteers should be there by 5:30 p.m.

6. OLD BUSINESS

A. 501(c)3 Update – No report.

B. Philadelphia Campaign – Chris reported that tents, tables, and chairs are all set. So far, he only has two volunteers for the weekend. Several other members said they would help and Kathryn had some of the Plank House volunteers who want to help. Dolores will make sure everyone has the appropriate period clothing. Chris said they would be at Suttlers Row, where the vendors are located. The event is being held at the Brandywine Creek State Park, Wilmington, Delaware.

1 C. Building and Grounds - Ben gave an update on the new signs for the Blacksmith
2 Shop. He is getting assistance from Gary and the township staff. Kathryn wants to add
3 “& the Blacksmith Shop” onto the banner. Ben said the spring on the gate at the Plank
4 House has been adjusted. Dolores would like to have a cannon ball to hold the gate,
5 which would be more historically correct. Kathryn said the bushes have been trimmed.
6 D. Family Research – Ed provided packets for each member showing the last 8 houses
7 he researched. A piece of information he just got is that Art Hanna was the announcer for
8 the Ed Sullivan Show. He gave out a list of historic homes where veterans of the Civil
9 War lived and some notes on them. Kathryn said that Jim Jones -- a historian at West
10 Chester University -- wrote an article about how industry in East Goshen helped during
11 the Civil War. Ben downloaded the township census from 1790 on for the historic files
12 in the township building. Ben wants to know where those files are in the township
13 building. Kathryn wants to put something in the January Newsletter asking people for
14 information about anyone from their families who served during the Civil War.
15 E. Connor Cummings reported on the video. He got the pictures he needed and started
16 to write the narration. He wants to interview Ben. Then he will work on the conclusion.
17 F. Contacts – Ben mentioned that there are two new teachers at the Friends School.
18 Kathryn, Ben and Judy will meet with a representative from Bellingham.
19

20 7. NEW BUSINESS

21 A. TAG - Kathryn introduced Art Polishuk who is a member of the Township Advisory
22 Group. Art explained what TAG is and what it has been doing since May. He asked the
23 members of the Commission to send any comments or ideas to the Township via the
24 website. Dolores mentioned that a large part of the Township budget is for the police.
25 Art explained that the Township already uses part-time police for the weekends. Kathryn
26 stated that there are grants available for some of the things the Township wants to do but
27 the budget cut leaves this unfunded. She suggested that the Township identify someone
28 to write grants and, perhaps, provide education for a current employee to do this. Several
29 members of the Commission voiced concern over the empty commercial areas/buildings
30 in the township. Art stated that as a result of a request at the public meeting that TAG
31 held this week, TAG members will be attending the ABC meetings to get input from their
32 members. TAG will give their report to the Board of Supervisors in October.

33 B. Demolition by Neglect – While Ben was taking some people on a tour of historic
34 buildings in the township, he discovered that the back of the barn at 1532 E. Strasburg
35 Road is caving in. This is on the list of historic properties in East Goshen. It was built in
36 the early 1700's. The house is occupied. It appears that someone who is a tree surgeon
37 or works with logs. Kathryn passed around photos and stated that the Historic
38 Preservation Ordinance lists two ways to demolish – by permit or neglect. Neglect is not
39 allowed. The Township must contact the owner of the property. Chris suggested that the
40 Commission take an annual tour of the historic properties from now on. Gary will look
41 into what the ordinance allows since the Township has not had a situation like this.

42 C. Comprehensive Plan Goals – The commission reviewed the items that were listed as
43 “no action”. There are four items that are unfunded at this time. Since some of the items
44 are repetitive, Kathryn will get an electronic copy and sort it by “Sub#” to make the
45 review easier next month. A report needs to be done for the January ABC meeting.

46 D. Goals & Objectives – The 2010 goals were reviewed with the following changes or
47 comments:

1 Long-Term Goals – (E) The status will be changed to Low because it is unfunded
2 at this time.

3 (F) This item is Completed.

4 Ongoing Activities – (B) Delete “two”, change “Days” to “Day” and add “and/or
5 County event”.

6 (C) Change status to MEDIUM.

7 (K) Change status to LOW

8 E. 2011 Budget – All volunteer hours must be entered into the logs.
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10 **8. LIAISON REPORTS**

11 A. None
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13 **9. SUB-DIVISION/LAND DEVELOPMENT**

14 A. Tory Inn – Gary reported that because it is a “use” change to commercial, it requires
15 handicapped accessibility. Modifications will be made to the addition not the historic
16 building.

17 D. New Kent Apartments - Gary reported that they have an extension to November.
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19 **10. CORRESPONDENCE**

20 None
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22 **11. PUBLIC COMMENT**

23 None
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25 **12. ADJOURNMENT**

26 Ben made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ellen seconded the motion. There was no
27 further discussion or comment. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at
28 10:00 p.m.

29 Respectfully submitted
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33 Ruth Kiefer, Recording Secretary

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