EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL COMMISSION WORKSHOP MINUTES February 16, 2011

The East Goshen Township Historical Commission held a workshop meeting on Wednesday, February 16, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. at the East Goshen Township Building. In attendance were: Chairman Ellen Carmody, Co-Vice Chairmen Ben Rohrbeck and Chris Reardon, Kathryn Yahraes, Judy Schafer, non-voting member Ed Lendrat. Also in attendance was Gary Althouse (Township Building Inspector and Staff Liaison to the HC), Dan Daly (East Goshen Planning Commission), Mark Gordon (East Goshen Township Zoning Officer), Rick Smith (East Goshen Township Manager) and Jeff Grossman (West Brandywine Historic Commission).

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

Ellen led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance and in a moment of silence for our troops.

3. INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUEST

Ellen introduced Karen Marshall, Heritage preservation Coordinator for Chester County. She was invited to discuss Section 106.

4. DISCUSSION

Mark Gordon expressed thanks to Kathryn, Ellen and Karen for holding this meeting. He explained the current permit application from Liberty Towers to install a cell tower between the WAWA on Paoli Pike and the parking lot of the East Goshen Elementary School on N. Chester Road. This use is not permitted in the C-2 area. Liberty Towers is requesting 9 variances. They have withdrawn their application two times in the past. They are scheduled with the Zoning Hearing Board on March 3, 2011. The Township will oppose their request. The Planning Commission is holding a workshop meeting tonight to discuss this application. The Township staff has been requested to look at possible sites in the East Goshen Park. The Township will use the Section 106 process. The West Chester Area School District is aware of the situation but there has been no response from them. Some parents have voiced concern.

Rick Smith asked Karen to define a historic property. She explained that it should be 50 years or older, but there are other criteria too. She knows that East Goshen has a Historic Ordinance and 96 historic resources. She feels this application is a good case study. She provided packets containing guidelines for cell tower review, forms and a guide to Section 106. She reviewed the history of legislation for historic preservation. East Goshen has a National Registered Historic District which has been identified as being impacted adversely by this request. She explained Act 167 covering "HARBS" which regulate how historic properties will look. East Goshen does not have a HARB. Chester County is unique because Historic Commissions were organized and the resource list is updated on a regular basis. She explained the Section 106 process. The FCC will resolve the issue if necessary.

Kathryn announced that the Chester County Historic Society will hold a workshop on March 12, 2011. Members of the Federal Advisory Council are coming for the first time to run this local workshop about Section 106. Because of the subject matter, all Chester County historic commission members, Board of Supervisors, Planning Commissions, attorneys, and township staff members have been invited to attend. She encouraged attendance.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chris moved to adjourn the meeting. Ben seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Ruth Kiefer, Recording Secretary

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