

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP  
HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
May 12, 2011**

The East Goshen Township Historical Commission held a scheduled meeting on Thursday, May 12, 2011 at 7:00 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, Joe Zug and non-voting member Ed Lendrat. Also in attendance were Gary Althouse (Township Building Inspector and Staff Liaison to the HC), Dolores Higgins and Erich Meyer.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE**

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

**3. MINUTES**

A. Kathryn moved to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2011 as corrected. Chris seconded the motion. The motion passed.

B. Ben moved to approve the minutes of April 14, 2011 as written. Joe seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**4. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A. The Activity Calendar was reviewed.

**5. TREASURER'S REPORT**

A. The report was reviewed. Ellen mentioned that the U.S. flag for 1861-63 with 34 stars was purchased. Concrete was purchased for installing the signs.

B. Kathryn gave the following report on the royalties from the Images of America Book up to March 2011:

9/2008	\$556.70
10/2009	\$574.87
4/2010	\$324.13
10/2010	\$ 54.06

These funds are dedicated to the Historical Commission. The cost that the Historical Commission was responsible for was taken out. Chris commented that the Commission should take some of the books to sell on July 4<sup>th</sup>.

**6. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

A. Ellen reported that she and Kathryn attended the 501.c.3 committee meeting and gave their wish list. One item was a video. The committee suggested using high school or college students. The committee needs a proposal of what the Historical Commission wants, how much it will cost, who has already been approached, and how far in the process they are. Joe explained that donations given to the Blacksmith Shop could be directed through the 501.c.3 and be eligible for a tax deduction. Ben voiced concern about restrictions of donations. It was decided that the Commission will keep track informally of the donations that are put in the bucket at the Blacksmith Shop. Ben wants to report these collections and the expenses they cover.

B. The Chairmen of the ABCs met with Senya who announced that the Chester County Industrial Council will be taking a tour of East Goshen to publicize East Goshen. Senya asked for ideas on how to promote East Goshen and encourage more residents to volunteer. One possible idea was to have a Volunteer Coordinator for the Township's Celebration in 2017.

C. GPS Project – Chris needs an official letter from the Township stating that they are working on a Township project. They will be driving around the township taking pictures of houses, etc.

1 D. Advertising for June 4<sup>th</sup> – Ellen has been giving out posters and fliers. She asked the  
2 Commission members to take some. Don Beideman will write an article for the newspaper. An  
3 idea for a topic was “What it takes to change from a Revolutionary format to a Civil War format.”  
4 Ellen asked if anyone has cd’s for the Civil War era.  
5

## 6 **7. OLD BUSINESS**

7 A. Cell Tower Update – Kathryn and Ellen went to the Zoning Hearing Board meeting  
8 regarding Liberty Tower. The presenter had photos of what it would look like but had none taken  
9 from the history area. Chris feels that moving the tower 100 yards or so from behind the WAWA  
10 to the Township Building doesn’t take the concerns away. Kathryn reported that John Snook,  
11 East Brandywine Supervisor and land management planner, was the Township’s expert witness.  
12 John helped East Goshen write the Historic Ordinance and Comprehensive Plan. Ellen feels the  
13 Historic Commission should protest the cell tower at the WAWA because of the visual impact.  
14 Chris moved to reissue the Historical Commission’s letter to protest a cell tower on both areas  
15 being considered (the WAWA and the Township Building). Ben seconded the motion. The  
16 motion passed.

17 May 24<sup>th</sup> the Board of Supervisors is holding a public meeting for cell tower discussion.

18 B. Research Update – Ed gave out packets of his latest research results. The next 9 houses will  
19 be located North of East Strasburg Road and East of North Chester Road.

20 He found 2 letters written during the Civil War era by East Goshen residents Oliver E. Jackson  
21 and Benjamin Franklin Baldwin.

## 22 **8. NEW BUSINESS**

23 A. Ben reported:

24 1. He emailed the Chairman of East Whiteland suggesting that they meet to share  
25 research.

26 2. The sign at Lockwood Chase mentions the “Battle of the Clouds.”

27 3. Local folklore says there are revolutionary soldiers buried at the intersection of Rt.  
28 352 and King Rd. Sean Moyer has additional information about this area.

29 B. 501.c.3 Requests – Kathryn passed around the Historical Commission’s grant wish list.  
30 Another project is a building for the Conestoga wagon. Ellen asked Commission members to  
31 think about this. Chris is against erecting another building. It would be an imposition on those  
32 in the Blacksmith shop and he and Ben are working on a different idea. They would like to move  
33 the meeting room out of the Blacksmith Shop and make it into a museum room instead. Signs for  
34 historic houses in East Goshen is low on the list.

35 C. Hershey’s Mill Dam – Ellen mentioned that there may be a request for funds to establish  
36 the Rocky Hill and Hershey’s Mill Dam areas as historic. A lot of research has already been  
37 done. There are some grants for educational projects.

38 D. Kathryn suggested putting an extra \$2000 request for volunteer costumes because for just  
39 the dress it will cost about \$159 each. This does not include shoes, bonnet, undergarments, etc.  
40 Dolores explained that dresses of this era were fitted, so it will be difficult to have several  
41 volunteers use one dress.

42 E. Commission members reviewed the list of project ideas:

43 1. Judy feels the East Goshen Township website needs to include the Civil War.

44 2. Kathryn likes the idea of taking traveling trunks with Civil War items in them to the  
45 schools. Ellen feels they will need to have a maintenance plan for the trunks.

46 3. A video of Ben in the Blacksmith Shop

- 1 4. Dolores suggested checking with local schools that have communication students that  
2 need to do internships.  
3 5. Design a laptop Power Point presentation  
4 F. Ben reported that the floor at the double doors at the Blacksmith Shop are getting worse  
5 and may be a safety hazard.  
6 G. Kathryn announced that the next meeting with the volunteers will be May 19<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.  
7 Ellen mentioned that the tours in May will not be in the first person. Because the day is  
8 longer this year, Ben will need another person to cover the Blacksmith Shop. Dolores  
9 needs to fit the female volunteers who will be wearing Civil War dresses.

10  
11 **9. SUBDIVISION/LAND DEVELOPMENT**

12 None

13  
14 **10. LIAISON REPORTS**

- 15 A. Board of Supervisors – Kathryn reported that they passed a resolution to let re-enactors use  
16 firearms. East Goshen will have a Community Day on Saturday June 25<sup>th</sup>. The new bridge in  
17 Applebrook was dedicated this week and named after Whitey Hassler.  
18 B. Conservancy Board – They will be planting shrubs in Applebrook this Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> at  
19 9 am. Need volunteers.  
20 C. Municipal Authority – The construction phase is done. They plan to have an open house in  
21 the Fall.  
22 D. Planning Commission – 1422 Paoli Pike – Dr. Zalenska. Chris explained that they have a  
23 deadline of August 2012, which they may not be able to meet. They have a 60 day extension.  
24 Kathryn mentioned that Senya feels the Historical Commission should write a letter stating that,  
25 based on the new information, the Commission wants to revisit the decision to waive the Historic  
26 Impact Study.

27  
28 **11. CORRESPONDENCE**

29 None

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31 **12. PUBLIC COMMENT**

32 None

33  
34 **13. ADJOURNMENT**

35 There being no further business, Ben moved to adjourn the meeting. Kathryn seconded the  
36 motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

37  
38 Respectfully submitted

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40  
41 Ruth Kiefer, Recording Secretary

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