

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP  
HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
June 9, 2011**

The East Goshen Township Historical Commission held a scheduled meeting on Thursday, June 9, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the Historic Blacksmith Shop. In attendance were: Co-Vice Chairmen Chris Reardon and Ben Rohrbeck, Kathryn Yahraes, Judy Schafer, Joe Zug, Sue Ciroletti and non-voting members Ed Lendrat and Monica Close. Also in attendance were Gary Althouse (Township Building Inspector and Staff Liaison to the HC), Dolores Higgins and Erich Meyer.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

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

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

**3. MINUTES**

A. Ben moved to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2011 meeting. Kathryn seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**4. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A. The Activity Calendar was reviewed. Ben said the date for the Goshen Friends Camp is July 1, 2011 from 1 – 3 p.m. He asked for someone to cover the Plank House Kathryn and July will be there.

Chris asked who was going to the Penn State Great Valley Road Show. He, Dolores and Kathryn will be going. He said there is a class you have to take first. The Paoli Battlefield event for September 24 was removed from the calendar.

**5. TREASURER'S REPORT**

A. The report was reviewed. Chris wondered if there will be any more memberships to pay. Kathryn will check on this. Joe moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Sue seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**6. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

A. Living History Day, June 4, 2011, Chris asked for assessments.

Discussion: Kathryn said that between 400-500 people came. It was difficult to get an accurate count because they came into the area from three different directions.

Sue said everyone she knew from Hershey's Mill raved about it. Linda Lang from the Hershey's Mill TV station took some pictures.

Ben got lots of favorable comments. This was the Historical Commission's biggest event so far. Judy feels that practice is necessary when changing the format like this year.

Dolores agreed that there needs to be a dry run.

Kathryn found herself switching out of the 1<sup>st</sup> person.

Dolores said they were not prepared for the amount of interest in the ginger beer. They needed to get more cups. She felt there was a nice balance of activities for kids and adults.

Chris said the re-enactors were very pleased. He suggested sending thank you notes to the organizers.

Kathryn said she, Ellen, Chris and Ben will meet to do a critique. They want to honor the 11<sup>th</sup> PA and specifically Lew Stafford. Also, she read a letter from Bob Sprague thanking the Commission for holding the event especially since it was done in the Civil War era.

Recommendations: Dolores said there needs to be more advertising, especially more prominent signs and more signs outside East Goshen.

Gary mentioned that some advertising companies will make the signs and place them along the roads for you.

Kathryn suggested using the Chamber parking for overflow and having a small shuttle bus to bring people to the historic area.

Ben suggested that, if we do have parking in Applebrook, use 1<sup>st</sup> person enactors along the pathway.

B. SAT (Saving America's Treasures) – A letter was received from the Director of the SAT stating the after 12 years of saving historic resources across the US, funding has been withdrawn for this national program. She thanked everyone for all the good things that happened during this time. Chris stated that the sad part of this is that once these historic programs/resources are unfunded, they never come back. That's why it's important for local groups to continue to preserve their local history.

## **7. OLD BUSINESS**

A. Research Update – Ed reported that he went to Williamsburg with a group last week and one of the people used to live in one of the homes he is currently researching. Also, last month music was mentioned. When he was in Manassas, he found a cd called "Johnny has Gone". It is music from the Civil War era using dulcimers, banjos, etc. He gave it to Kathryn.

B. The Garden – Kathryn met with Mark Miller about the garden. He will remove the railroad ties, remove the bedding dirt for 2 days while they dig around the perimeter, and boards will be added to create the different raised beds. They will do the work during the summer.

C. Grounds – Sunday they talked about the shrubbery in front of the blacksmith shop. Everyone agreed they should be removed. Ben mentioned that historic photos don't show shrubs. He cautioned them to be careful of the foundation. Judy feels a shield is needed for the A/C unit. Ben said the cover must be removable, possibly a stockade fence. Dolores mentioned that the ash tree from the Chamber was saved with the intention of slicing it to make it into a bench. Ben thinks it would be a good watering trough. Chris wants to have a plan before anything is done. Also, he feels a thank you should be sent to Mark and the Public Works Department for all the help they gave.

D. Zoning Hearing Board – Kathryn reported that last night the ZHB announced that they voted to not support Liberty Towers, so Liberty Towers will file in court. The Board of Supervisors is negotiating with Liberty Towers. Ellen sent a letter to the BOS on behalf of the Commission stating that the Commission opposes both the WAWA and Township property locations.

## **8. NEW BUSINESS**

A. CCHPN 2011 Volunteer Recognition will be held on June 22, 2011 at Radley Run. Kathryn and Sue will attend. Kathryn said that this year each municipality has 30 seconds to speak. She feels they should incorporate the Revolutionary War to Civil War change, the fact that the Plank house was refitted, new outfits were made, and we had a very successful Living History Day.

B. Fugett Awards Ceremony on June 15, 2011 – Kathryn and Monica will attend. Kathryn will give a certificate to each student that participated in the National History Day competition and went to the State competition. Fugett had 2 students that went to the National competition.

C. Atlas Project – Chris explained that this project is to list old properties in the Township. The deadline to have the information to the County is Thanksgiving. It is very important to get

this done because it will include East Goshen and the Battle of the Clouds in a large study of the Paoli Battlefield. Kathryn said the County has added the GIS program to the Atlas program. Chris explained that the GIS computer program can start with the land as it was in the 1600's and layer the changes through the years. The County is supposed to provide a list of all buildings over 50 years old. Then the Historic Commission will go to each house to identify any features. Ben still wants something from the Township explaining that they are on official business. Chris will talk to Ellen to set up a meeting to get this started.

D. Lincoln Building in West Chester – Kathryn said this building has been nominated for a national award. She will email instructions for voting. Also the Daily Local had an article about the building because a pipe broke in the attic and damaged the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors.

E. Community Day June 25, 2011 (rain date June 26, 2011) – Chris said there will be a tent for the ABCs to have a table to showcase what they do. The hours for this were reduced to 6 – 8 pm. Chris asked for volunteers. Sue doesn't feel people will come to this tent because of all of the great activities going on for the kids. No one volunteered.

F. Expenses – Ben provides a monthly report of expenses and donations for the Blacksmith Shop. He feels the donations should be used for supplies for the Blacksmith Shop. He is still waiting for a \$125.00 check from the township. Dolores gave Ellen the receipts for the clothing. She also gave a report of how much the project could have cost.

## **9. SUBDIVISION/LAND DEVELOPMENT**

None

## **10. LIAISON REPORTS**

A. Board of Supervisors – Kathryn reported that they decided to participate in the Chili Cookoff in West Chester this fall.

B. Park & Recreation – Sue reported that they are working on the Community Day. She feels it will be a great event.

## **11. CORRESPONDENCE**

None

## **12. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

## **13. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Ben moved to adjourn the meeting. Judy seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Ruth Kiefer, Recording Secretary

C:\Documents and Settings\Owner\My Documents\My Word\Historic Com\HC 2011\HC 060911 final.doc