

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP  
HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
September 8, 2011**

The East Goshen Township Historical Commission held a scheduled meeting on Thursday, September 8, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Building. In attendance were: Chairman Ellen Carmody, Vice Chairman Ben Rohrbeck, Kathryn Yahraes, Sue Ciroletti, Judy Shafer, Monica Close and non-voting member Ed Lendrat. Also in attendance was Erich Meyer, Park & Recreation Board and Mary Kilvin, Chairman of West Whiteland Township Historic Commission.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Ellen called the meeting to order at 7:00 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. MINUTES**

A. Ben moved to approve the minutes of the August 11, 2011 meeting as corrected. Sue seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**4. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A. Ellen announced that Monica was approved by the Board of Supervisors as a full Historical Commission member to fill Joe Zug's position.

B. The Activity Calendar was reviewed. Kathryn pointed out that the Pumpkin Festival will be called the Harvest Festival and will be held on Oct. 22/raindate Oct. 23 from 10 am to 4 pm.

There will still be fun events for the children and vendors from the farmers market and arts and crafts vendors will be there. The Brandywine Battlefield Halloween Eve event is October 29<sup>th</sup>. Marshallton Day is October 22 from 5-8 pm.

**5. TREASURER'S REPORT**

A. Monica reported that there was no activity for August. Monica changed the format of her report. There are still no donations shown on the Township report.

**6. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

A. Ellen announced that a donation of a period outfit was received from Maryann Kaiser.

B. For the newsletter, Ben wrote an article about the War of 1812.

C. The 49<sup>th</sup> Regiment is planning to attend the Battle of the Brandywine in Delaware, and may also try to be at the Paoli reenactment..

**7. OLD BUSINESS**

A. Chester County Day, Sat. October 1, 2011 – There will be a guide in each room. Kathryn has the list of volunteers. Jack Yahraes is painting the meeting room in the Blacksmith Shop. Judy would like to have the weeds along the road cut down. Ben commented that the hydraulic jack can be removed. The Plank House needs to be cleaned. The electric meters and air conditioner need to be hidden. If anyone has an idea, sketch it and get it to Ellen.

B. Garden – The long beds will be for vegetables. Pathway construction was discussed. Chas did some research and used hand tools to construct the forms and countersink the screws and filled them with pegs. There is a good list of medicinal herbs. Judy would like to have a book with diagrams for people to look at. Ellen gave Kathryn and Judy a brochure on gardens

that she picked up in Hopewell. Judy has a list of some items that still need to be purchased for this year.

C. Atlas Project – The Commission reviewed the map of Township Historic Resources and classification of historic areas. There are 96 historic properties in East Goshen. Ben mentioned that it was decided not to include items in the 1900's, not to include schools or the 13 water powered grist mills that were in the township. The Fedor House is missing and Ed noticed that several others are missing. Ellen will contact Karen Marshall and ask to have the title for the Hershey's Mill Historic District moved down so the Fedor House can be shown.

B. Research – Ed distributed his latest research on 1601, 1603, 1605, 1607, 1629, and 1631 E Strasburg Road, 514 and 628 Beaumont Circle, and 636 Speakman Lane. Ed has started research on the next 13 properties. Ed distributed flyers for the Chester County Historical Society's Civil War Documentation Day, Thursday, September 22, 2011 from 1-8 pm at their facility on N. High Street. Also, for a lecture on the War of 1812, Ed suggests Richard Goosik, Asst. Principal at Conestoga and author who lives in East Goshen.

C. The mystery house has been identified by Mark Gordon, Township Zoning Officer. It is 111 N Chester Road, Historic Resource #63, Class II, Vernacular. He included an aerial photograph of the property with an approximate location of where the photographer was standing when the picture was taken. The property is owned by Jane Marks (Polito), daughter of the late owner Mr. Polito.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Battle of the Clouds – Sean Moir, a GIS consultant, spoke about the possibility of getting a grant to fund research on the Battle of the Clouds. He has produced animated maps for several other battles, which were funded by the American Battlefield Protection Program. The goal of the ABPP is to protect battlefields of national importance and raise public awareness. Products he has produced are:

1. Animated maps
2. Battle maps which zoom out to show all aspects of the battles. He distributed a sample of a map for the Battle of the Clouds which covers Aston to Brandywine to Paoli. At this point, East Goshen was the epicenter of the fight for freedom.
3. Military analysis maps
4. Archeological maps
5. Public presentations
6. Recommendations to the Federal agency

Sean spoke with someone in Washington who acknowledged the Battle of the Clouds as an important battle but they don't know anything about it. Chester County is reluctant to ask for another grant. He urged the Commission members to convince the County Commissioners that this is important. Letters of support are very helpful. The application is not due until January 2012. Sean will provide a sample letter and he will prepare the application. Karen Marshall will be involved in this process. Mary Kilvin believes she has proof that there was an encampment in West Whiteland Park. Also, she is concerned because a sketch plan has been submitted to develop a property where soldiers are buried. No real research has been done in West Whiteland. Sean confirmed that West Whiteland would be included in this grant. Sean will do the introductions for the Paoli Illumination on October 8 and he will give a presentation at the General Warren Inn on October 11, 2011.

B. The Section 106 program on road transportation will be held on October 8, 2011. Kathryn and Monica will attend.

C. The Friends of Martin's Tavern have leased the blacksmith shop in Marshallton. They asked Ben to help set it up so it can be a part of Marshallton Day. Ben asked the Commission if he could donate some horseshoes. The commission approved this.

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

A. 41 Sherman Drive. Mark Galik, owner of this historic home, explained that their plan is to expand the kitchen, which is a small, galley type kitchen, add windows to get more of the view, and a deck that runs around the side of the house. He is requesting 15 feet of relief from the rear yard setback. They back onto open space so this will not impact the neighbors and some neighbors have provided letters of support. The core of the house is a log cabin. There have been several additions made to it. Ed had the history of the owners and other interesting items in his file for this property. Regarding the windows, Kathryn said there are companies who can assist with converting the windows to keep the historic aspect but also make them energy efficient. Regarding the decking, Mark isn't sure of what he will use because of maintenance concerns. The current porch is mahogany. Kathryn asked if the Commission could take pictures of the interior of the house. Mark said yes.

Kathryn moved that the Historical Commission recommend that the Board of Supervisors support the Zoning Variance request for Mark and Alison Galik at 41 Sherman Dr. for 15 feet of relief from the rear yard setback as depicted in the plans drawn by Chester Valley Engineers dated 8/23/2011 and the variance application dated 8/30/2011, with the condition outlined below. The property has unique contours and elevations which create a hardship not created by the applicant and the proposed modifications to the property will not create an adverse impact to the character of the neighborhood. Condition of Approval:

1. The applicant agrees that the unroofed deck proposed and subject to the relief being granted from the rear yard setback shall not be covered with a roof.

Ben seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **10. LIAISON REPORTS**

None

## **11. CORRESPONDENCE**

None

## **12. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

## **13. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Sue moved to adjourn the meeting. Monica seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Ruth Kiefer, Recording Secretary