

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
November 10, 2011**

The East Goshen Township Historical Commission held a scheduled meeting on Thursday, November 10, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Building. In attendance were: Chairman Ellen Carmody, Vice Chairman Ben Rohrbeck, Kathryn Yahraes, Sue Ciorletti, Judy Schafer, Monica Close and non-voting member Ed Lendrat. Also in attendance were Erich Meyer, Park & Recreation Board, and Dolores Higgins.

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

Ellen asked Judy to lead those present in the Pledge of Allegiance and in a moment of silence for our troops.

3. MINUTES

A. The Chairman noted that the minutes of the October 13, 2011 meeting were approved as corrected.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Activity Calendar – Add – December 16, 2011 East Goshen Holiday Party, 6:00 to 9:00 pm at Hershey's Mill. Add – November 30, 2011 – Atlas Project.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

A. Monica presented the Treasurers Report and budget. The only new items on the report were some expenses.

6. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

A. Judy and Ellen met with the Dark Valley Questers and showed them the Plank House and Garden. They were hoping the Questers could help with the garden but it has to be permanent. They discussed other items and the different eras. Ellen doesn't expect any contribution from the Questers to be more than \$100.

The Commission discussed other items that they could ask the Questers to provide i.e., additional redware, spinning wheel, pitcher and bowl, oil lamp, mud scraper, coffee grinder, or wooden tape loom. Ellen will give them 5 items.

B. Ellen spoke with Mike from Historic New Castle Delaware who told her that their items usually go to auction, but they do have ways to gift items. They also have long term loans available, but the Commission cannot take on a loan. Mike said they have a leather making bench which the Commission liked because it fits in with the site and all eras. Ellen will contact Mike.

C. In December the Commission will have to elect new officers. Anyone interested in a position please contact Kathryn.

D. Ellen announced that Mae Schmidt passed away on October 28, 2011. The funeral was private and the family requested donations go to Crossroads Hospice. Since she was a life time member of the Historical Commission, a motion was made to send \$50 to Crossroads Hospice. The vote was unanimous. Monica suggested that when an item comes from the Questers, it should be used in Mae's memory.

7. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Plank House Garden – Judy reported that the first layer of mulch is done and onions and garlic will be planted. The color version of the garden brochure is being worked on.
- B. The Atlas Project is done. Ellen said they included schools and mills. Kathryn will prepare a list of items and classifications. However, some of the parcel numbers were wrong and have to be checked. This could also be made into a brochure. Ben has a list of dates that can be added to the Historic Inventory list. Ben mentioned that there are some items that need to be added to the Historic Inventory. Kathryn is keeping a list because the ordinance needs to be changed each time a new item is added to the list. This way several items can be added at one time.
- C. Chester County Parks & Recreation has moved from the Government Services Building in West Goshen to the new building in downtown West Chester.
- D. Battle of the Clouds – Chester County received enough requests that they have approved the application for a grant. The application must be filed by December 31, 2011. We won't know if it is approved until July 2012. Ellen passed around the first version of the map that Sean prepared. There were a few items that need to be verified.
- E. Brochure for the Battle of the Clouds – The members reviewed Chris Reardon's draft. A map can go on the back with photos of some of the houses in the area at that time. Dolores questioned the use of "hurricane". Ben has only ever seen the storm referred to as a dense downpour. He will check to see when hurricane was first used.
- F. Ed reported that his research should be done by the next meeting and then he will start to write the report.
- G. Sue thanked Ellen and Kathryn for the great job they did at the Hershey's Mill luncheon on October 19, 2011.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Signs - The following resulted from discussion about signs in the historic area:
 - 1. Big sign by the Blacksmith shop – Change the dates on the back, put the township logo on the front.
 - 2. Sign on Boot Road – Move it into the parking lot, the name is okay, delete the dates it is open and add some historic information.
 - 3. Ben suggested using a lectern type sign near the wetlands.
 - 4. The posts on the signs should be red.
 - 5. The new signs should have the East Goshen logo on them.
 - 6. The signs on the boardwalk need to be replaced. Kathryn suggested that the Conservancy Board be contacted and urged to use the same colors and sign company.
 - 7. Additional lighting was discussed.
- B. Toys – Judy reported that the total cost for the toys already purchased is \$129.90. Additional toys should be purchased to accommodate the Summer Program. Judy recommended purchasing another set at \$129.90 plus 5 other toys at \$96.80 making a total of \$226.70 plus tax, etc. Ben moved to purchase the new toys totaling \$226.70 plus tax and shipping. Kathryn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Kathryn suggested putting cards and checkers in the tavern. Judy will get a cost. Judy will also look for civil war paper money.
- C. Cell Tower – Kathryn reviewed the history of the cell tower application. Liberty Tower and the Board of Supervisors have been negotiating a lease for a place behind the Public Works Building. They are also discussing the use of a uni-pole, which is an enclosed tower.
- D. Hershey Mill Dam – The Board of Supervisors is still discussing what to do.
- E. Harvest Festival – The members discussed the effectiveness of having a table. They all agreed they would rather volunteer personally.

F. Tom Smith Property – Goshen Meadows Apartments wants to purchase the property and build additional apartments. The Commission would like to get in the historic house to get a more detailed look. Ellen listed all the things that would be required to convert the house to apartments.

9. SUBDIVISION/LAND DEVELOPMENT

None

10. LIAISON REPORTS

None

11. CORRESPONDENCE

None

12. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

13. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Sue moved to adjourn the meeting. Judy seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Ruth Kiefer, Recording Secretary