

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

The East Goshen Township Historical Commission held a scheduled meeting on Thursday, December 8, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Building. In attendance were: Chairman Ellen Carmody, Vice Chairmen Ben Rohrbeck and Chris Reardon, Kathryn Yahraes, 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 led 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 November 10, 2011 meeting were approved.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Activity Calendar – Kathryn distributed the 2012 calendar. The dates are tentative. For most of the activities she used the date corresponding to the day the event was held in 2011. National History Day is correct and anyone who wants to participate should go online to apply. Everyone agreed to have Living History Day on Saturday, June 2, 2012.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

A. Monica presented the Treasurers Report and budget. The only new item was an expense payment to Dolores.

6. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

A. Ellen gave the Dark Valley Questers an application for four items totaling \$498. The application will be reviewed by the local Chapter and, if approved, the Commission will get \$250. Then the application will be reviewed by the Regional Chapter and could result in an additional \$250. The four items must be purchased within one year, must be used for educational purposes and the Questers will want to take photos of them.

B. Ellen spoke with Mike from Historic New Castle Delaware who told her the leather making bench is being donated to East Goshen Historical Commission. Ellen will make arrangements to pick it up.

C. The Plank House light inside was left on. Ellen will find out why.

D. Peter Wentz is going to order the tape loom. When Ellen called, she talked to the site administrator and was given the name of a security company in Plymouth Meeting. The Board of Supervisors is in favor of installing a security system. Ellen will do more research on this.

E. Mark Miller told Ellen it would cost \$2,300 to move the electric meters. But a PECO representative feels it may be an old meter and need to be changed. If so, Mark will move the wiring so the meter can be moved.

F. On March 3, 2011 Eleanor Biddle will do a demonstration of the box loom at the Peter Wentz homestead in Montgomery County.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Atlas Project – Ben, Chris and Ed attended the presentation program on November 30, 2011 at the Easttown Library. Six municipalities participated – East Goshen, Tredyffrin,

Malvern, Easttown, East Whiteland and Willistown. The Brandywine Battlefield and Paoli Battlefield are complete. Thanks to the encouragement of the Board of Supervisors and cooperation of the Chester County Commissioners, the Battle of the Clouds will be next for the American Battlefield Protection Program grant. The Historical Commission now has, in its possession, the CDs to the animated maps, the ABP Paoli Battle and our own Historic Resources Atlas map. Chris would like to frame the map of the township and present it to the Board of Supervisors. Everyone agreed to do this at the Annual Planning Meeting on Saturday, January 7, 2012.

- B. Battle of the Clouds – Ellen put together a draft for a brochure about this Battle. It needs photos and maps. There is a nice sketch of the blacksmith shop on the back of the Atlas book. Kathryn will find out if the Historical Commission can use it.
- C. Ed reported that all of the preliminary work is done on the next 17 properties. Ed found out that Dr. Ralph Moriello owns a historic property and has a history of it, which he will share with Ed. The Hickman family burial ground may be in East Goshen. Ed provided a list of unlisted historic resources and dates of construction.
- D. ABC meeting will be held January 7, 2012. Ellen will bring all of the brochures. Ellen distributed a list of goals which the commission reviewed.
- E. Living History Day, June 2, 2012 – Chris will contact the cavalry. It was decided that on Saturday, January 21, 2012 a workshop will be held to plan this event. All Commission members and volunteers, including the children, should attend. Ellen will contact a Questor who has original news papers from the Civil War. She will allow the Historical Commission to use them.
Ben suggested having a female blacksmith because women filled in these positions when the men went to war. Monica volunteered. Ben reminded everyone that 2013 will be when Lee started his move north to Gettysburg.
- F. Plank House Garden – Judy reported that the onions and garlic are planted. She and Kathryn are working on a recipe book with assistance from Kathy Martinides..
- G. Kathryn gave out some books she purchased.
- H. The archiving project is ongoing.
- I. Signs – Ellen needs the exact wording for the signs before she can ask Mark Miller to order them. Ben and Judy will work on this and research the lectern sign. The size was discussed and a decision made that it should hold 4 – 8 1/2 x 11 sheets. The sign at the wetlands is in very bad condition. Ellen will notify the Conservancy Board.
- J. Volunteers – Ideas for increasing the number of volunteers were:
 - 1. Have a lecture and get people to sign up
 - 2. A simple sign stating that volunteers are needed
 - 3. Ask the other ABCs to help recruit volunteers
 - 4. Challenge the current volunteers to bring a new one to the January workshop.

Kathryn has the volunteer forms collected this year and has contacted those people. It was agreed that Volunteers don't have to be East Goshen residents.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Fall 2012 Event – Suggestions discussed:
 - 1. Have one day with the tour and several presenters
 - 2. Have 4 presenters – one at 10 am, one at 12 noon, one at 2 pm and one at 4 pm. This allows for time to take a tour of the Blacksmith Shop and Plank House.
 - 3. Suggestions for presenters:
 - a. Seed saver garden
 - b. Post office
 - c. Telegraph
 - d. Food demonstrations

e. Include something for young people

Kathryn said John Chatley volunteered to make lucets which are hand held devices that have many uses including making cording.

- B. Hours – Ben mentioned that he can't do 6 hours in the heat of the summer. He signed up for the AM this year but very often the next person did not show up. Most guests come in the AM. There was discussion about being open from 10 am to 1 pm. Also, Chris suggested having 2 people share the day and do both the Blacksmith Shop and the Plank House.
- C. Windows in the Blacksmith Shop and the Plank House are leaking. Ellen will contact Mark Miller.
- D. New officers for 2012 were discussed. Election will be in January.

9. SUBDIVISION/LAND DEVELOPMENT

None

10. LIAISON REPORTS

None

11. CORRESPONDENCE

None

12. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

13. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Judy moved to adjourn the meeting. Ben seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Ruth Kiefer, Recording Secretary