

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
September 13, 2012**

The East Goshen Township Historical Commission held a scheduled meeting on Thursday, September 13, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Building. In attendance were: Chairman Chris Reardon, Vice Chairman Ben Rohrbeck, members Kathryn Yahraes, Monica Close, Judy Schafer, Sue Ciorletti and non-voting member Ed Lendrat. Also in attendance were Dolores Higgins and Erich Meyer, Park & Recreation Commission.

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 a moment of silence for our troops.

3. MINUTES

The Chairman noted that the minutes of August 9, 2012 were approved.

4. ACTIVITY CALENDAR

A. Kathryn pointed out that the copy of the calendar dated 9-10-12 is the most current one. The additional items are highlighted. She also pointed out that the Township Yard Sale is 9/29 not 10/29. On 10/18 the Chester Co Historical Society is holding a reception for the new display "On the Edge of Battle". Chris mentioned that the Paoli Battlefield is holding lectures this year at the General Warren Inn.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

None

6. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

A. Battle of the Clouds – Chris wrote to Karen Marshall. She wants East Goshen to take the lead role when they start the meetings in November at Yellow Springs. Ben gave Chris a list of the houses that were in East Goshen at the time of the Battle.

B. Chris won't be here for the October meeting. Ben will lead the meeting.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Family Research – Ed distributed the last of the family research. This item on the agenda should be changed to Misc. Historic Research.

He also provided information for the 3 Tun Tavern. He studied several maps checking properties and determined the property was first patented to Morris James in 1736. His research shows the tavern didn't exist until 1811, so, it wasn't here during the Battle of the Clouds.

B. Balloons – Ellen asked Ed to research John Wise, who was a balloonist from Lancaster. Dolores stated that the first balloon ascension in the U.S. was from Phila. to Gloucester, NJ. Balloons were used during the Civil War. The North used gas. The South used air. Chris is looking for one with a long neck like the ones used during the Civil War. It will be for display only.

C. Budget – Chris reviewed the 2012 and 2013 budget numbers. The total being proposed for 2013 is \$3,425.

Kathryn mentioned that 24 more lawn signs are needed for Living History Day and will cost about \$300. It was decided to use remaining funds from the 2012 budget from Materials and Supplies.

Judy needs \$50 to add the township website on the bottom of the new sign. Someone told her “welcome” was misspelled. When she checked, she noticed that the letters slide and pop out easily. The sign maker will fix the sign with no charge.

Kathryn asked Jon Altshul for a transaction list for 2007 – 2012. Discussion:

1. She noticed that it has been 6 years since the Commission took a tour of the township historic resources. She feels the cost for van rental should be added to next year’s budget. Ben is not in favor of spending money for this.
2. In talking to Jon, Kathryn noticed that workshops and conferences are not in the budget. She reviewed a flyer on conferences. She feels funds should be added to the budget for education.
3. The plan for the next Living History Day is to turn the meeting room in the Blacksmith shop into a tavern. Ben mentioned that he has historic photos and tintypes for use in the camera shop which will be in the Plank House. No funds are needed.
4. Brochures- Kathryn is concerned about consolidating everything to one brochure and using the website. Using the website isn’t for everyone. She doesn’t want to lose the information. Ben feels the Historical Commission should have an “information” button on the website. Kathryn feels the volunteers need some of this information. Binders should be given to them.
5. Professional Services – Kathryn mentioned that the Planning Commission is reviewing the Township Ordinances. She feels the Historical Commission should hire a consultant to help with the Historic Ordinance. Chris explained that he and Ellen met with Sue Carty to review the Historic Ordinance. The Planning Commission is only reviewing to make things clearer, they are not redoing the ordinance. He and Ellen feel the Historic Ordinance is okay. They do not need to hire a consultant.
6. Roof – Ben commented that he would rather have a good roofer do the work instead of a historic based contractor. Kathryn suggested adding another \$300 for professional services. Chris explained that the \$500 in 2012 budget and the \$500 in 2013 budget is for a historic consultant to look at the buildings and give recommendations for the scope of work and timing. The actual cost of the roof installation is a Township Capital Expense. Dolores commented that during the last 5 years there has been no expense for consultants. Kathryn claims she got advice from consultants for free which is hard to get in today’s economy.

Judy made a motion to approve the proposed 2013 budget as presented by Chris for a total of \$3,425. Sue seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

8. ANY OTHER MATTER

A. Kathryn passed around plans for a remodel project at 600 Reservoir Road. The Commission felt the work was mostly interior and had no concerns.

B. Kathryn passed around a sample of a maintenance program. She feels a Maintenance Committee should be formed. Chris feels that the Public Works Dept should be involved if this is done.

C. Kathryn asked Chris to write a letter to the owner of the former bed & breakfast thanking him for restoring the damaged area of the building.

9. ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted

Ruth Kiefer, Recording Secretary