

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

The East Goshen Township Historical Commission held a scheduled meeting on Thursday, December 13, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Building. In attendance were: Chairman Chris Reardon, Ben Rohrbeck, Ellen Carmody, Monica Close, Judy Schafer, Kathryn Yahraes, and non-voting member Ed Lendrat. Also in attendance were Mark Gordon, Township Zoning Officer and Erich Meyer, Park & Recreation Commission.

**COMMON ACRONYMS:**

*BOS – Board of Supervisors*

*BSS – Blacksmith Shop*

*CCHS – Chester County Historic Society*

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Chris led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance

Chris asked for a moment of silence for our troops.

**MINUTES**

The Chairman noted that the minutes of November 8, 2012 were approved as corrected.

**ACTIVITY CALENDAR**

A. No report.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

A. Chris confirmed that he will fill the position of Chairman for one more year. Ben moved to nominate Chris as Chairman for 2013. Kathryn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Goals for 2013 – Chris reviewed the list of goals and objectives for 2013 that will be submitted to the Board of Supervisors for the ABC meeting in January 2013. Monica made a motion to approve the list. Judy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

A. Monica provided a written report. It was suggested by Jon Altshul that they continue to keep a record of money brought in at the events.

B. Chris reported that the historic car club sent a check for \$100 as a thank you for letting them use the Historic area on Thanksgiving Day. The township needs a 501c3 to accept donations like this. Chris wants to invite Jon back to a meeting to discuss these donations.

**OLD BUSINESS**

A. Goshen Meadows, 1325 West Chester Pike – The applicant was represented by Dennis F. O'Neill, Engineer; David Polatnick, Architect; and Scott Fagan, owner. Chris reviewed that the Historical Commission made a recommendation to the Planning Commission to proceed and made 2 suggestions: 1) extend the buffer on the east side of the property to West Chester Pike and 2) open up more space around the historic structure. Dennis pointed out that the plan includes these suggestions. There are 2 handicapped parking spots at the Historic Structure. Eight new trees will be planted around the house and roses will be planted in the buffer to discourage people from walking through it to the residences on Reservoir Road.

David explained that the interior of the house has been changed from 4 apartments to 2 2-bedroom apartments, one on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor and one on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. The leasing office will be on the first floor. They will keep the staircase, the doors and windows. A ramp will be added to the porch for access. The garage will be a fitness center and repairs will be made to the exterior. They will use historically correct colors on the structure.

Chris made a motion to accept the renderings as presented by the applicant and applicant agrees to use historically correct colors. Kathryn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dennis mentioned that they are obligated to notify the Historical Commission if they find any artifacts during excavation. Scott wants to relocate the mill stone somewhere on the site.

Chris asked if the Historical Commission could take photos of the house when Scott owns it and before the construction starts. Scott will call. Mark Gordon has a file of historic information that he received from one of the Hoopes family members.

B. Miscellaneous Historic Research – Ed distributed information verifying construction dates for 1050 & 1034 Hershey Mill Road. He also reviewed a packet that was received from Karen Marshall about the Battle of the Clouds. It included a list of sites and dates of construction. Ed pointed out that there was about 8 items that were not correct. Everyone agreed that Karen Marshall should come to a meeting.

C. Chris announced that Ben is resigning and paid tribute to him for the many hours of volunteer work he has done. He will be missed at the meetings but there will always be a chair for him just like Dolores. He presented Ben with a framed print of the Blacksmith Shop.

D. Projects for 2013 – Kathryn mentioned that Mike Kochen would like to have the telegraph set up. She feels it should be set up in the tavern with the photographer. Chris will check to see if Mike will leave it until July 25, 2013.

E. Archives – After Linda Gordon sold her house, 2 items (a barrel & a scale) were donated to the Plank House.

F. Communication – Kathryn stated that they have a plan but need help setting up a facebook page and maintaining it.

G. Jackets – Monica contacted Rick Smith about getting a jacket for Chris. She told him the Commission will pay for it. She is waiting to hear from Rick.

H. Building Repairs – Chris reported that repairs are being done to both the Blacksmith Shop and the Plank House. He and Mark Miller made a list of issues which will be done in the next year and agreed to do an annual check of the buildings. Judy mentioned that she was there when the painter was there and explained that the paint is based on original chips of paint. He knows where to get the correct paint. Judy mentioned the rods and removable film that can be put on the windows to help prevent fading.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Eagle Scout Project – Chris received information about a possible Eagle Scout project from Christopher Cummings. He will come to a meeting to make a presentation. Kathryn advised Chris to have the scout contact Mark Miller, who is the staff member that works with the scouts.

B. Chris acknowledged the letter from Mark Gordon regarding demolition of the historic house at 1631 E. Strasburg Road.

C. Ben presented the following attendance data for the Blacksmith Shop in 2012,

**excluding Living History Day:**

Total visitors in 2012 = 213

Total hours open to the public = 98

Total hours of training and/or maintenance = 16.5

Total AM shifts = 22

Total PM shifts = 11

Total hours per Guide:

Kathryn – 6	Chris – 18.5
Monica – 14	Jim – 6
Ben – 85	Joe – 14.5

This shows the number of monthly visitors/Average number of visitors per day:

March (2 days) – 12/6	
May (2 days) - 11/5.5	
June (4 days) - 49/12 ( <b>excluding LHD</b> )	
July (3 days) - 7/2	
Aug (4 days) - 30/7.5	
Sept (5 days) - 31/6	
Oct (3 days) - 23/8	
Nov (1 day) - 50	

Ben suggested being open every Saturday in May and June, and September and October. Chris suggested not having a working fire in the BSS-just have someone to explain. Judy feels that the volunteers should be able to close when weather dictates, i.e. too hot.

Kathryn will do an analysis for the Plank House.

D. Tiger Cubs – This is a group of 1<sup>st</sup> graders who want to come to the historic center on a Thursday night in January. Chris will find out when the repairs will be done so a date can be selected.

#### **ANY OTHER MATTER**

A. CCHPN Conference – East Goshen will be featured at this conference on March 9, 2013. Kathryn and Ellen will be making a presentation.

B. Thank You for Volunteers – Kathryn spoke to Bob Lukens at the CCHS. He agreed that East Goshen could have a day in January to take the volunteers on a tour of the CCHS featured display “On the Edge of Battle”. The cost will be \$6/person, about \$120 total. Chris moved to approve \$6 per person for this tour as a thank you to the volunteers. Monica seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **LIAISON REPORTS**

A. Park & Recreation Commission – Erich reported that the Winter Farmers Market will start next Thursday, Dec. 20 at the Public Works Building, 3:30 – 6:00 pm.

B. Conservancy Board – Kathryn reported that they will be planting about 10 dogwood trees along E. Boot Rd in back of the Plank House next spring.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

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

Respectfully submitted

Ruth Kiefer, Recording Secretary