

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
August 8, 2013**

The East Goshen Township Historical Commission held a scheduled meeting on Thursday August 8, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Building. In attendance were: Chairman Chris Reardon, Judy Schafer, Kathryn Yahraes, William Schultz, and Ellen Carmody. Also in attendance was Dolores Higgins (resident)

COMMON ACRONYMS:

BOS – Board of Supervisors

BSS – Blacksmith Shop

CCHS – Chester County Historic Society

CCHPN – Chester County Historical Preservation Network

CPTF – 2015 Comprehensive Plan Task Force

DAR – Daughters of the American Revolution

HC – Historical Commission

HRIS – Historical Resource Impact Study

LHD – Living History Day

NHD – National History Day

NR – National Register of Historic Places

PHMC – PA Historical Museum Commission

SCA – Sustainable Communities Assessment

SAR – Sons of the American Revolution

TTVW – Town Tours & Village Walks

Call to Order

Chris called the meeting to order at 7:00p.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 July 11, 2013 were approved as corrected.

Announcements

The calendar of events was reviewed. Kathryn received a preservation planning outline from Karen Marshall. Kathryn will select items for review for the CPTF

Treasurer's Report

Chris reviewed Monica's report. Money from the original 501c3 is to be used for the Plank House only. Kathryn pointed out that several items on the report from the finance department are not correct. She talked to Barb Phillips and corrections should show in next month's report.

Chairman's Report

1. Saddle - Chris reported that the saddle was received from Dean Pierce. It is in the blacksmith shop meeting room. It is an older English saddle with stirrups of cast brass and wool felt pads. Dean provided a written statement about it which will be put in the HC files. There is some stitching that needs to be repaired and it could be cleaned. The only cost is \$63.00 for shipping.
2. Wheels - Bob and Cindy Ellis donated 4 black carriage wheels. Her father ran an antique business. They are wood inserted iron hub, so they are early. They requested that the set remain a set.
3. Donations Procedure - Ellen mentioned that when an item is presented as a gift, the BOS must state in writing that they are going to keep it with a copy to the donor. The HC cannot set a value on the item. The BOS has to take ownership of the item and this should be published in the newsletter. At the end of the year, a report is made listing the items that were given that year. Bill agreed that no value is ever given on historic donations. The CCHS has a form they use when they get a donation. Ellen will write an outline for the donation process.
4. Newsletter - The BOS voted to partner with Hometown Press to provide a paper newsletter. There will be no flexibility in the deadline for articles. The cost will be covered by advertising.

5. Tri-State Coalition - Chris reported that it costs \$40 to become a member of the Tri-State Coalition. Ellen explained that this is a group of museums that provide a way of exchanging information among museums. They have a SWAT team which is a group of students who will come and help for 2 weeks on a project if you need them. Also, if the HC has need for a particular item, they will help get it. The HC agreed to become a member.

6. Sign - Chris reported that the Eagle Scout is digging the footers for the sign. Chris noticed that they are leaving the doors unlocked. He will notify Mark Miller. The display case is brown. The stand is made from treated wood and will be green until it weathers, in about 1 year, and turns gray. It will eventually be the same color as the fence. Everyone agreed not to paint the stand.

Old Business

1. Miscellaneous Research

a. Historical Resources - Chris reported the County has made decisions on roads based on Ed's research. Chris showed them some photos from the 1930's that show what roads existed then. The railroad is not allowing access to their archives which would show what roads existed at that time.

b. Postal History – Bill's topic this month was Sugartown. The Sugartown post office lasted almost 100 years. It was located at a series of crossroads. Sugartown "covers" are hard to find. The 3rd on the paper he provided is from the Brinton Collection. At one time there were 253 post offices in Chester County. Now there are 53 which will probably be reduced in the future.

2. TT&VW Recap – Kathryn estimates about 200 people attended. She feels we could get a more accurate count by having the tour guides report how many people they had in their groups. Dolores feels the guests should sign in when they arrive. One problem was that, although the event was advertised to start at 5:30 pm, a few people came as early as 4:30 pm. Kathryn reported that we got discounts from Athena Pizza and Philly Pretzels and Swiss Farms donated coolers. There were 40 volunteers. WEGO had the speed sign up on Rt. 352 and Brandywine Radio did an interview. Kathryn thanked Janet Emmanuel for coming to the historic events. There were no other Supervisors present. Chris reported that he received many positive comments.

3. 2014 Budget - Jon Altshul, Township CFO, reported that he is starting to develop the budget for 2014. He needs proposed budgets from the ABCs by Monday, September 9th so a preliminary budget can be presented to the BOS on September 17th. If there are any increases, they must be justified. Chris pointed out that he is going to meet Mark Miller at the historic area to walk the site and determine what needs to be done. Last year the roof on the Plank House was repaired. The contractor who worked on the roof will also give input on what he saw.

Ellen asked if the BOS is starting to allocate money for the historic celebration in 2015. Jon doesn't know if a separate account will be set up for that.

Chris reviewed the projection for the remainder of 2013 budget. The group reviewed the proposed 2014 budget.

Jon explained that a capital asset is anything that cost over \$5,000 and will last or be used for at least a year. Jon discussed the process for the new Friends of East Goshen (501c3) to become official. Chris repeated the conversation the Commission just had about receiving donations. Sandy Snyder, Chairperson of the Friends of East Goshen, will be at the HC September meeting.

Supplies were discussed. Judy and Dolores will purchase 2 new tents and discard the broken ones. They will put HC identification on them. Dolores announced that she feels the volunteers should purchase their outfits. She feels that some don't appreciate the outfits and don't wear them properly. The HC will vote of the 2014 budget at the September meeting.

4. CPTF – The next meeting will be Monday August 26th. They are still discussing what format to use. The BOS had a meeting with the CP representatives.

5. Catalogue – Ellen is assigning numbers to the items based on the year they were acquired.

New Business

1. Moving - It was decided that on Wednesday, August 14, 6:30 pm, items will be removed from the Blacksmith Shop meeting room so the Township can continue to use it for meetings. Pictures will be put on the walls. Ellen wants to focus on 1777 but Chris doesn't think there are enough artifacts for 1777. The walls need to be painted. Dolores thinks the deadline to be ready should be May 2014.
2. Flag - Judy mentioned that the flag needs to be replaced. Most of the Commission feels the BOS should put a current 50 star flag on the pole. Chris will research flags.
3. Storm Shelter - The BOS approved a proposal from an Eagle Scout to construct another storm shelter in Applebrook Park on the west side. The HC feels it is in Historic Goshenville and does not want it there. Kathryn will write a letter to the Park & Recreation Commission and Chris will sign it.

Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted

Ruth Kiefer, Recording Secretary