

**EAST COVENTRY TOWNSHIP
HISTORICAL COMMISSION
September 10, 2008
SCHEDULED MEETING MINUTES**

(Pledge of Allegiance)

Attendance: Gail Brown (Chairman), Lynn Coine (Vice Chairman – absent), Ann Keen (Member), Roy Kolb (Liaison-Planning Commission-absent), Rugene Caldwell (Member-absent), Larry Tietjen (Member), James Michael (Member), Dr. Rich Marchetti (Member), Phyl Snyder (Secretary)

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM.

Minutes

Minutes of August 13, 2008 were reviewed.

P. Snyder made the motion to accept the minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by J. Michael. Motion was passed unanimously. 6-0

No Public Comment

Action Items

- Eagle Scout articles: P. Snyder will have the two articles (Bill Dougherty and Andrew Hoffman's) for the Chester County Historical Preservation Network (CCHPN) Newsletter ready for our next meeting. G. Brown will verify who to contact with the CCHPN.
- "Zoning Ordinance Part XIV – Conditional Use Process": G. Brown distributed a copy to each member for our white three ring binders. (For historical reference see page 8 – 1401G – Natural and Cultural Resources Analysis.)
- Up-date on Historic Resource Map Approval: The Historical Resource Map was not subject to approval at the August 11, 2008 Board of Supervisors meeting as had been indicated by the Board of Supervisors at their July meeting and reported in 'The Mercury'. Per B. Rodgers, East Coventry Township Manager, the historic resource map was inadvertently omitted from the review package sent to the Chester County Planning Commission. Mr. Rodgers had given the historical commission an example of an Ordinance to be advertised and addressed October 13, 2008 at the monthly Board of Supervisors meeting. Mr. Rodgers issued a gracious written apology to the members of the East Coventry Historical Commission because the Historic Resource Map was not included with the original review materials submitted to the County.
- Stuffing Envelopes for Individual Mailing Notification: Thursday, September 11, 2008 the Historical Commission will stuff the letters to be mailed notifying the residents of East Coventry Township of the pending adoption of the Historical Resource Map. We have offered assistance in order to facilitate the Township Administrative Personnel and save taxpayers dollars by providing volunteer help. G. Brown, Mary Lou Dougherty, Amy Keller, Louise Tietjen, R. Marchetti, J. Michael, A. Keen, and P. Snyder will be at the Township Building at 10:00 AM to stuff envelopes

- Although we are not receiving inquiries from citizens through the Township, we are aware of concerns from citizens about the Historical Resource Map. The Historical Commission has been working in accordance with the Township Ordinance as developed and approved by the Board of Supervisors. In November of 2007 we were given a deadline to complete the Historic Resource Map. The Township should be informed Class III Historic Resources will not be affected in the permitting process. Per ordinance, the Historical Commission is an advisory Commission. We make recommendations. The Board of Supervisors is the controlling Board and review and to approve or not approve, is only our recommendation.
We worked with Chester County to identify historic resources, but verified by reviewing tax assessment lists, incorporating the 1981 survey, reviewing Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission records, etc.
G. Brown has requested inquiries from citizens be forwarded to the Historical Commission. To date this has not happened. We would be better able to address concerns if we knew the specific concerns.
- At our October 8, 2008 regular meeting we will be available to address questions from citizens concerning the Historic Resource Map. G. Brown to request that the Township Manager add this to the Township web-site home page.

Up-Date of Fricks Locks Village:

- G. Brown received an e-mail from B. Rodgers, Monday, September 4, 2008 informing her Frens and Frens will be taking interior pictures in Fricks Lock Village beginning at 9:00 a.m. Unfortunately, she did not open her e-mail until 11:00 am. When she arrived in the Village, Mr. Frens and the cameraman was just exiting the last building (Boxwood Lodge). Per conversation with Mr. Frens, the interior of houses weren't as bad as he expected. He took pictures. Radiators were torn out but left in buildings. All copper piping and rain gutters have been stripped from the buildings. G. Brown has requested the Township Manager call her in the future with information, especially when he has received a short notice.
- On September 15, 2008 there will be a Walk/Assessment with Frens & Frens, PHMC representatives, the Historical Commission, and Exelon about maintaining National Register Status for Fricks Locks Village at 10:45 AM. G. Brown and P. Snyder will represent the Historical Commission.
- Fricks Lock Stakeholders will meet Wednesday, September 17, 2008 from 10:00AM until 12:00 PM at the Schuylkill River Federal and State Heritage Organization Building - J. Michael, G. Brown and P. Snyder will attend for the Historical Commission.
- Member walks to observe the current conditions of Fricks Locks Historic District are scheduled for September 11, 2008 - time to be determined, and September 17, 2008 at 6:30 PM.
- G. Brown distributed informative materials on Fricks Locks Village.
- Hearing for Fricks Locks Demolition Permits: G. Brown will request Mr. Holsterman, our Township Solicitor, attend our October 8, 2008 meeting to address the Commission on the hearing process for 'Demolition Permits'.
- G. Brown distributed "The Secretary of Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties" to all members (Applicable to Class I properties only)

Subdivision and Land Development

88 Wells Road: Conditional Use

Conditional Use is a proposed Sports Complex, Field Hockey training facility. It appears from reviewing the 1883 map that the Fricks Locks canal and towpath did cross this land. Jim Michael has study overlays and verified the canal and towpath did in fact, travel through subject tax parcel. Upon verification, G. Brown is going to submit appropriate Conditional Release criteria to the Board of Supervisors. P. Snyder made a motion to release the HC Conditional Release review letter on verification the 1883 Map shows the canal did cross through the property. L. Tiejen seconded the motion. The motion was approved – 6-0. The canal area must be approached from the archaeological aspect.

Discussion Items

- The Chester County Historic Preservation Network’s Fall Presentation will be ‘Historic Bridges of Chester County’, on Thursday, October 16, 2006, at Downingtown Municipal Building, 6:00 p.m. – Tour, 7:00 p.m. – refreshments, 7:30 p.m. Presentation, Jeff Amerine. No admission charge.
- L. Tietjen volunteered to work with G. Brown on subdivision and land development reviews.
- Discussed the need for a Historical Commission stamp for approved rehabilitation plans.
- Upcoming Meeting
Budget needs to be established and submitted to the Township Manager.
- A locking bookcase needs to be ordered for the Historical Commission library
- G. Brown reminded everyone that new officers will be nomination/elected in January for 2009.
- Historical Commission goals will need to be established on or before January for 2009.

Adjournment

J. Michael made a motion for the meeting to adjourn. R. Marchetti seconded it. The motion was approved 6-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35.

Respectfully Submitted,

Phyllis Snyder
Secretary