

**EAST COVENTRY HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
SCHEDULED MEETING MINUTES  
AUGUST 11, 2020**

**Attendance:** Gail Brown (Chairman), Scott Fitzgerald (Vice Chairman), Larry Tietjen (Planning Commission Liaison). Absent: Jeffrey Stevenson (Secretary)

**Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Gail Brown, Chairman**

**Pledge of Allegiance:**

**Minutes:**

The regular Historical Commission Meeting Minutes for February 11, 2020 were reviewed and approved by the Historical Commission. Motion to approve by S. Fitzgerald, seconded by L. Tietjen, motion carried 3-0-0

The regular Historical Commission Meeting Minutes for March 10, 2020 were reviewed and approved by the Historical Commission. Motion to approve by S. Fitzgerald, seconded by L. Tietjen, motion carried 3-0-0

The regular Historical Commission Meeting Minutes for May 12, 2020 were tabled.

The regular Historical Commission Meeting Minutes for July 14, 2020 were reviewed and approved by the Historical Commission. Motion to approve by G. Brown, seconded by S. Fitzgerald, motion carried 3-0-0

**Public Comments – none**

**New Business**

ARRO Engineering report August 10, 2020 – Fricks Locks Construction Status:

Notice to Proceed has been given to the contractors at the preconstruction meeting on July 21, 2020. Contractor began clearing and grubbing on July 27, 2020. All work is scheduled to be substantially completed by December 18, 2020 and final completion to be January 17, 2021.

G. Brown reported actions taken by the Board of Supervisors at their regular meeting August 10, 2020.

Ordinance 2020-241 addressing the minimum members of the Historical Commission to reduce from seven (7) to five (5). To clarify and to address redundancies.

Change Order Request for Fricks Locks Village Construction – ARRO. Unacceptable soil found in new parking lot area, must be removed and replaced: i.e. – excavation, aggregate fill, disposal of soil, textile product on top. Estimate: \$42,702.90. Board rounded off to \$43,000.00 and approved. G. Brown asked where the financing for the Work Order would come from, Mr. Kraynik replied from the Capital Fund.

G. Brown reported issues discussed at the preconstruction meeting July 21, 2020.

Detailed discussion on the walkway gate. Options were later presented by e-mail and J. Stevenson, S. Fitzgerald and G. Brown commented. As an open walkway is required for the ADA access, proposals would not limit access. Also, neither the Township or the County would commit to being responsible to close the proposed gate. If it proves to be a problem, it can be addressed at a later date.

Alternatives are in discussion for the design/cost estimate for the large pavilions. Latest cost estimate \$68,185.00.

The contractor could not supply the red color for the road surfacing.

G. Brown gave a status of the rebid for the James Ellis House:

The scope of work for the James Ellis House was adjusted. In some cases the materials to be used were adjusted to a lower quality, such as the roofing materials, etc.

The electrical, HVAC, plumbing, brick pointing, brick replacement, etc. were broke out as alternates. The prebid meeting will be held at Fricks Locks Village on August 18 2020 at 10:00 a.m. The bid opening will be on September 3, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. at the Township Building. The bid award date is scheduled for September 14, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at the Board of Supervisors regular meeting.

G. Brown reported on the Fricks Locks Stakeholders meeting August 11, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. by Zoom. The following is from Tim Fenchel notes today (items already discussed tonight were omitted).

Agreement between Exelon and R&B Restoration is in the final stage. R&B is awaiting Final Terms & Conditions for review

J. Halderman will look into the status of the Trail License Agreement

M. Roberson visited the Village in recent days and reported no major damage from the storms. One building showed signs of entry. That issue was fixed and closed up.

M. Roberson forwarded security system contact information to J. Rajan at Exelon.

K. Marshall proposed a possible Chester County Webinar featuring Fricks Lock. She will report back with more information at future meetings.

K. Marshall will locate the sign kiosk that is to be installed at the trailhead.

G. Brown reported we had inquiry from Mr. Aloysius (Al) Gryga, for recommendation from the Historical Commission (HC) for the Towpath Park Master Plan Study.

The HC members suggested the graphics for the storyboards be replaced as-is as the current graphics are fading, the water feature within the park is a remnant of the original canal and the towpath is evident and visible, signage to identify would be recommended.

G. Brown reported we had an inquiry from Jocelyn Canfield, Communication Results for the Wayfinding Project.

Ms. Canfield requested photographs, a copy of our brochure

(handout for tours). She inquired about signage; Gail responded we have a three sided Schuylkill River Trail sign developed and stored for Fricks Locks Village. Jocelyn asked for suggestions for the Township webpage. G. Brown noted the Fricks Locks link on the

Township webpage had been deleted and addressed under Parks and Recreation Activities. G. Brown suggested Fricks Locks be addressed as Historical. Ms. Canfield suggested adding Historic to the activities. G. Brown suggested story board signage for the first four houses in Fricks Locks would be a great addition, but is expensive and didn't know if these would be within the scope of the Wayfinding Project. G. Brown is to request the scope of work for both the Towpath Park and Wayfinding Project. L. Tietjen suggested we could also request this information from the Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Committee.

G. Brown thanked the Historical Commission members for their photographs and articles for the East Coventry Township Fall Newsletter. Great job!

### **Old Business**

G. Brown – We received notification from the County via e-mail on August 5, 2020 that Halteman Road Bridge #255 rehabilitation had been completed.

The detour was removed the afternoon of August 6, 2020. Gail stated it had been a pleasure working with the County on this project, they were professional and accommodating. Gail suggested the HC members stop by the bridge and view from below. It's a beautiful historic bridge.

**Planning Commission** – L. Tietjen, Planning Commission Liaison  
The Planning Commission reviewed proposed Ordinance Amendments

### **Committees**

Fricks Locks Subcommittee – The Fricks Locks Subcommittee has been approved and we are awaiting the approval of the Maintenance Agreement.

Fricks Locks Volunteer Committee – No activity

Archives Committee – No activity

Oral History Committee – unassigned

### **Other Business**

G. Brown reminded everyone that the 2020 Town Tours and Village Walk Virtual Tours were ongoing and if they had missed a tour it could be watched on You Tube.

Information on several virtual training opportunities had been forwarded to members, please consider attending from your home!

**Adjournment** - 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

N. Gail Brown for Jeffrey Stevenson  
Secretary, Historical Commission

