

**EAST COVENTRY TOWNSHIP
HISTORICAL COMMISSION
March 11, 2009
SCHEDULED MEETING MINUTES**

(Pledge of Allegiance)

Attendance: Gail Brown (Chairman), Lynn Coine (Member), Ann Keen (Member), Jim Michael (Vice Chairman), Rich Marchetti (Member), Rugene Caldwell (Member), Larry Tietjen (Member), Phyl Snyder (Secretary)

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM.

Public Comments - None

Minutes

Minutes of February 11, 2009 were reviewed.

J. Michael made a motion to accept the minutes. A. Keen seconded the motion.

The motion was approved unanimously 8-0-0.

Action Items

1. G. Brown/A. Keen/P. Snyder – Welcome letter status – no action
2. G. Brown/R. Caldwell – Research status
 - R. Caldwell showed a book on the canals which included photographs of the Fricks Locks Canal. The Schuylkill Navigation, A Photographic History by Harry L. Risker. Any books pertaining to the history or architecture of East Coventry and worthwhile to the public's interest can be discussed by the East Coventry Historical Commission. The Commission can submit a request to the Township manager for purchase of these books. The Historical Commission has had several books donated to our library; all donations are truly appreciated.
 - G. Brown copied historical information at the Chester County Historical Society. This information included: The Smith Needle Factory in Parker Ford, letters from Mrs. W. Wells to Knowles Croskey (about 1885), business letters (1871) from James L. Ellis to Seltzers Store, letters from Sarah Reinhart to Miss Angeline Frick, and photographs of the 1860 Union Meeting House on Old Schuylkill Road, and old photographs of various churches in East Coventry..
The East Coventry Historical Commission would be grateful to accept any letters, photographs, deeds, genealogy records, etc, that the residents of East Coventry have in their homes as donations to our files.

3. J. Michael/P. Snyder – Historical Commission web page status
J. Michael made copies of a disc containing photographs from various websites and pictures he had taken of properties in East Coventry. He also gave us the address of the website he has created for us to critique and offer comments.
4. G. Brown – Chester County Speaker Program status – Old Photographs
A date has been set for Wednesday, July 22, 2009 at 7:00 PM as advertised in the Township Newsletter.
5. P. Snyder/ R. Caldwell – Oral Histories Status
R. Caldwell received the Oral History booklet and will contact P. Snyder after she reviews the information. The Commission has to decide whether a video or audio is desired. List of equipment, questions formed, legal releases required - all to be planned ahead of time.
6. G. Brown – status of Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) reproduction costs -
L. Tietjen has volunteered to research historical records at the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission archives. L. Tietjen will make the copies in Harrisburg at his convenience.
As stated in the East Coventry Historical Commission Minutes of February 11, 2009, a motion was made and approved by the East Coventry Historical Commission to request the Township to set up an account with the PHMC not to exceed \$500.00. G. Brown will contact B. Rodgers about our request for a \$500.00 account from the Supervisors to reproduce copies for our files.
7. East Vincent/East Coventry, Parker Ford Town Tour 2010
East Coventry Historical Commission (EHC) members discussed adding new information for this tour, not a repeat of our last Parker Ford tour. It was suggested we include the cemeteries. J. Michael said he could contribute to this idea.
8. G. Brown – update on Historical Planner Consultant
The East Coventry Township Manager, B. Rodgers, is trying to contact Karen Marshall, Historic Preservation Coordinator, Chester County Parks and Recreation for recommendations for a Historical Planning Consultant.

Subdivision and Land Development

WC Eagles (88 Wells Road, LLC)

The East Coventry Board of Supervisors by their Motion at the March meeting effectively ignored their previous motion for a Phase 1 Archeological Study of the Canal Bed. The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission know arrowheads were found in 1991. However, they were looking for specified prehistoric archeological findings but stated a Phase 1 Archeological Study is a recommendation but not a requirement. The East Coventry Historical Commission regrets portion of the proposed building at this site will be built over the canal bed.

Wineberry Estates

The Planning Commission noted in their Annual Report that they are awaiting a recommendation from the East Coventry Historical Commission on the proposed reuse of portion of the structured stone wall. G. Brown to retrieve and submit drawings to the Historical Commission for review.

Discussion Items

Fricks Locks Village Update

G. Brown contacted Dave Kimmerly of Preservation, PA which was a follow up to the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission's letter of November 24, 2008 to Dale H. Frens. In this letter the Commission had suggested G. Brown contacting Dave Kimmerly. After obtaining permission from B. Rodgers, East Coventry Township Manager, Mr. Kimmerly and G. Brown were met by the Chief of Police at Fricks Locks for the tour. Mr. Rodgers had planned to attend, but had a last minute conflict.

Conferences

Verification of Historical Commission members attending the Chester County Historic Preservation Network Spring 2009 Workshop on March 14, 2009.

G. Brown and P. Snyder will attend.

Verification of Historical Commission members attending the Trail Town Conference on March 19, 2009 at 8:15 AM.

R. Caldwell and G. Brown will attend.

Members planning to attend the CCHPN 2009 Recognition Dinner – Wednesday, June 24, 2009

Please let G. Brown know if you able to attend

Other Business

G. Brown asked if members of the Historical Commission would be interested in attending a workshop for deed research and another workshop for historical files. She will discuss this idea with Karen Marshall and get contacts. She suggested those members working on the files and those doing deed research, respectively, set up the workshops and notify the other members of date and time.

There was a discussion on submitting a request to the Township for purchase of the book, The History of the Ridge Fire Company. L. Tietjen suggested we consider submitting a request for more than one book. Members were to make suggestions for additional books.

There was a discussion regarding the inventory of the old historical calendars. A. Keen/P. Snyder requested a set of the remaining calendars be given to Louise Tietjen for her

assistance with the historical files. Everyone agreed. G. Brown further suggested we give the remaining calendars to residents of East Coventry. Discussion followed: 1) Suggestion - we sell them for \$2.00 each and 2) How should we distribute these calendars?

G. Brown suggested we all consider what we should do with the remaining inventory and discuss our ideas at our next meeting.

G. Brown asked J. Michael for a copy of his notes on the historical presentation he is presenting at the Middle School. He said he would give the Historical Commission a copy of his notes.

Adjournment

P. Snyder made the motion to adjourn. R. Caldwell seconded the motion.
The motion was approved 8-0-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Phyllis Snyder
Secretary